FEBRUARY 17 — 23, 1979

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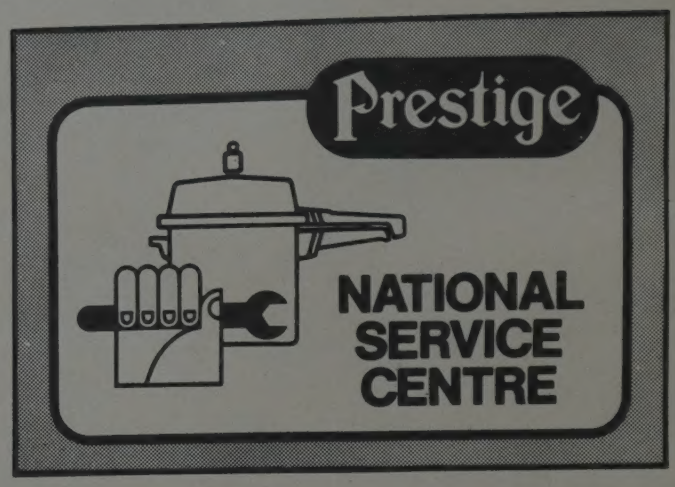
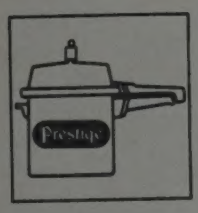
(If you own a Prestige or Preett Pressure Cooker, cut out and keep this advertisement)

ANNOUNCING

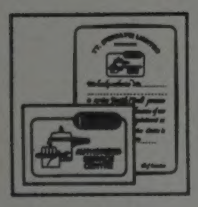
THE PRESTIGE NATIONAL SERVICE CENTRE





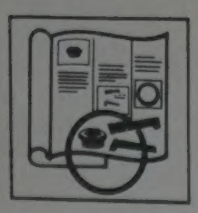
Get the best out of your Prestige

A Prestige pressure cooker is built to give you trouble-free service for a lifetime. Even if you bought your Prestige 20 years ago, we still want you to get the best out of it today. The Prestige National Service Centre, at the Company's headquarters at Bangalore, is part of a new scheme to ensure prompt and efficient service for more than 2 million Prestige owners like you.



350 Service Centres all over India

The Prestige Service network already has over 350 Authorised Service Centres throughout the country. So you won't have to go far to find one. All Authorised Service Centres now display this Certificate of Authorisation. Look out for the Certificate, with the Prestige service symbol. It's your guarantee of genuine spares, company-trained technicians ; and reliable service— at controlled prices. Ask to see the Prestige Service Rate Card.



Get genuine Prestige spares !

It's worth making sure you get genuine Prestige spares—such as the new ISI-marked rubber gasket and the new metal safety valve. All Prestige spares are made from the finest raw materials and undergo strict quality control tests to ensure long life and efficient performance. For instance, with proper care, a genuine Prestige gasket should last you a minimum of two years. And the best way to be sure is to go to a Prestige Authorised Service Centre.

How the National Service Centre will help

The Prestige National Service Centre, assisted by 9 Regional Service Centres, will act as a co-ordination and information unit, to supplement the efforts of our 350 Authorised Service Centres. So, if you are not certain where to go for genuine Prestige spare parts or reliable service, just write to us — and we'll tell you.

Write to us — we're at your service !

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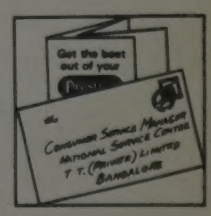

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CAREFREE is ready to use, so easy to change, so simple to dispose of. So hygienic.

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HMV Fiesta Popular.
It's India's largest-selling record player.

When we put the Fiesta Popular in the market, we hoped to put music within the reach of as many homes as possible. We gave it everything music lovers would want in a compact, sturdy set. Starting with a very reasonable price tag ! For both AC and Battery models. We built in a powerful, wide-frequency range amplifier and a place-it-anywhere, lid-mounted, matching speaker. A tone control for fine adjustment of bass and treble sounds. A 3-speed turntable to play all types of records. All this because we wanted the Fiesta Popular to take more music to more people...and, before we knew it, it had become the largest-selling record player in the country ! Today, there are 2,50,000 Fiesta homes spread all over India. You can be sure there's an HMV Fiesta playing somewhere right now.

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MARGO KEENAN

Born in Bombay, December 31, 1956. Studied at Barnes School, completed I.S.C. from Beatrice's Girls' School, Deolali. Took up beauty therapy, modelling and secretarial courses. Badminton champ at school, acted in a number of school plays. Letter-writing and cooking interest her. Designs and tailors clothes for herself and others. If luck favours, plans to open a beauty parlour.

Photograph : Suresh Seth

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Inland Rs. 85. Foreign Rs. 127 (Sea Mail)

THIS WEEK

FEBRUARY 17 — 23, 1979

THE GLITTER INDUSTRY

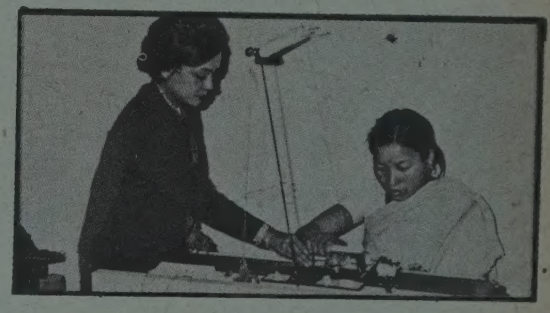
There is a lot more to diamonds than sparkle. Little known facts about the industry, what goes into the making of diamond jewellery and myths and legends about the stone.
Page 11.

ADVENTURES WITH UNNIKRISHNAN

Unnikrishnan was a servant extraordinary, very conscious of his rights, very sure of himself. Experiences of the lady of the house.
Page 12.

THE STATUS OF NEPALI WOMEN

Two somewhat conflicting reports about the status and condition of women in Nepal.
Page 47.



THE OPEN CLASSROOM SYSTEM

An assessment of the Open Classroom System offered by Sophia College, Bombay, based on interviews with the organizers and participants.
Page 22.

AN UNUSUAL MARRIAGE CONTRACT

Rather than sacrifice any of their principles, Tehmina and Venkat Dhage drew up their own marriage contract — and this, as far back as in 1947.
Page 30.

ALSO

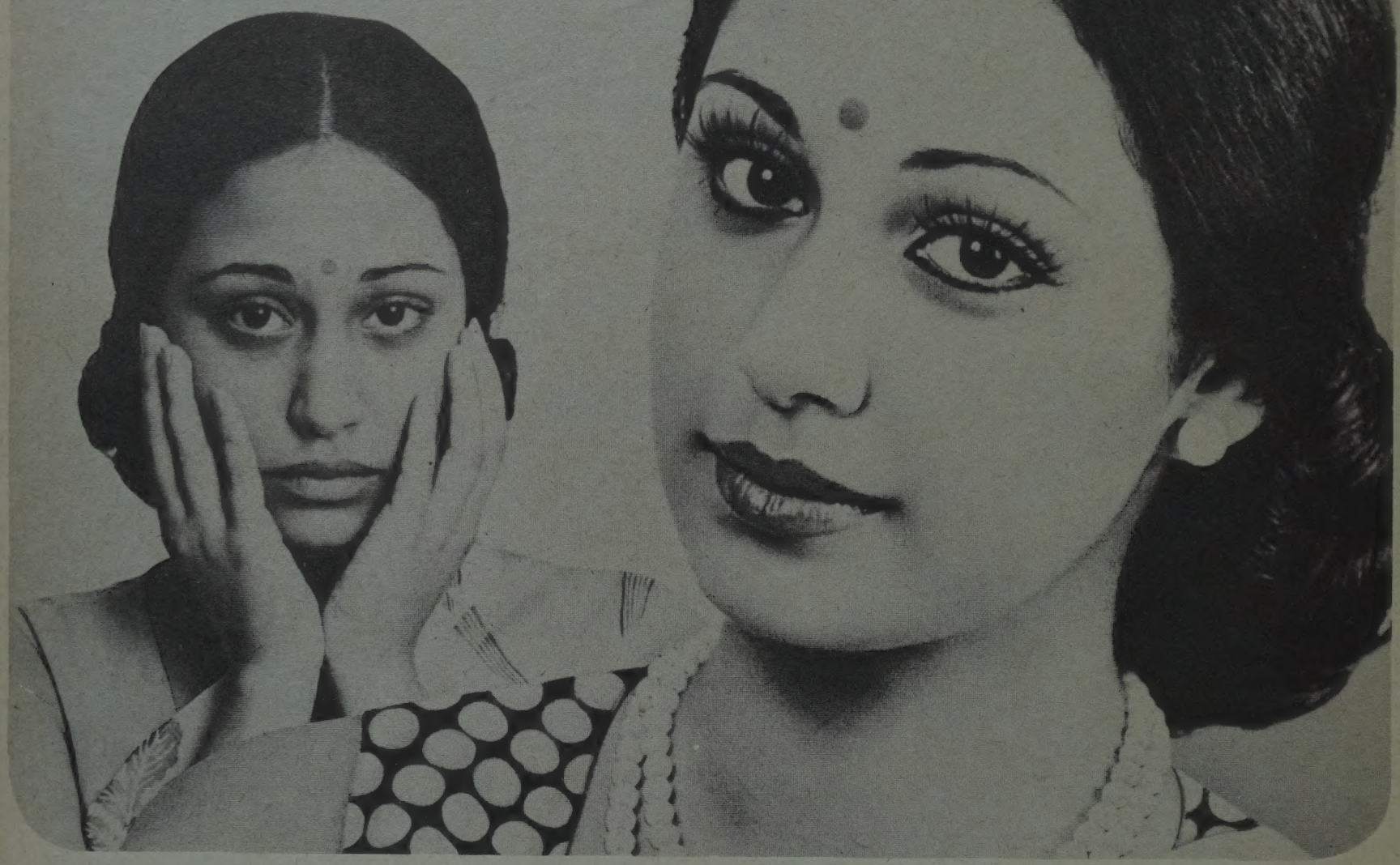
Colour Feature: Interesting wall plaques made of shells, beads and coloured sand — **Page 15** The Film Festival: Shabana Azmi discusses her experience of it — **Page 21** Musicotherapy: Beauty by music — **Page 27** Women as Economic Outcasts — **Page 37** British Women Fight for Equality — **Page 43** Profiles: Lakshmi Kannan, poet, and V. Jaya Devi, fingerprint expert — **Page 40.**

REGULAR FEATURES

Your Page/**7,** Readers' Voice/**9,** Women in Sport/**16,** Comics/**25,** Passing Through/**26,** What's New/**26,** Fashion/**28,** Cookery/**32,** Hiya Honey/**38,** Beauty/**41,** Short Story/**44,** Frankly Speaking/**51,** People and Events/**52,** Horoscope/**54.**

"Oh why can't my skin look flawless!"

Now it can.



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Complexion...flawless, fairer

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Make the most of your natural charm. Get New Charmis Vanishing Cream. And keep your complexion flawless and fairer day after day.

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Charmis Vanishing Cream cares for your complexion as much as you do.

CVC.G.1.78

YOUR PAGE

Do you have something to say? Then say it here. We pay Rs. 25, 15 and 10 for the three best letters.

1st PRIZE

BASIC RIGHTS

While we extol the merits of Prohibition, we fail to notice the paradoxes arising out of the strict adherence to the policy, of which the masses still remain ignorant. Recently an elderly gentleman in the last stages of life was recommended small doses of brandy to help his failing digestive system. The relatives had a tough time trying to get an ounce or two purely for a medicinal purpose from a complete stranger who possessed a permit. No one was prepared to run the risk!

But just the other day my servant's niece, a thin, emaciated young woman in her mid-twenties, had reluctantly admitted that her husband had hit her mercilessly with a piece of firewood, during one of his regular bouts of drunkenness. Educated up to middle school and possessing a teacher's training certificate, this young woman, with three little boys, is scared stiff to leave the husband and quit.

When I asked her how he still managed to secure drinks, she was positive in her stand that all rules had now been relaxed! So much for the ignorance of the masses regarding important laws which have been framed with a view to their uplift. Women bear the brunt because society refuses to accept a woman who is forced to leave her husband, even when it is due to his cruelty; she goes through hell in spite of all the laws made to alleviate her sufferings. Where did we go wrong? Where shall we begin — now, at least — in our attempts to bring an awareness in those who have not even heard of the basic rights of a human being?

PARVATI V. MENON, Madras.

Maybe you have a point there about the paradox of prohibition, but there is much more to it than that. Even if the wife had been "aware", what would she have done? Would she have confronted the husband with the rules? Would she have reported him to the police? No. She's helpless with or without awareness. She must have the means to make this awareness of practical use to her — and this is where society, and that means all of us, have to step in. . .

2nd PRIZE

THE CHIP ON THE MARCH

According to reports, man will no longer be women's chief barrier to achieving liberation. His place will be taken by the silicon chip!

It has made possible the construction of word-processors — typewriters with a built-in memory. Two or three of these can do the work of ten typists! As a large number of working women do typing and secretarial work, the consequences are predictable. The only comfort that a woman can take from this situation is that, in a negative way, she will have achieved her goal of equality with man — she may not have a job but, then, neither will he! Men, too, have been affected by this. Already, more than a million workers have been rendered jobless in the calculator, wristwatch, cash register and telephone equipment industries abroad.

Is this progress, when man invents machines to render himself unnecessary? In the interests of mankind, let us call an immediate halt to such progress.

PUSHPALATHA PRABHU, Bombay.

Will machines replace men? This is a question which has never been satisfactorily answered. There is, undoubtedly, a great breakthrough in science and technology — and that's all to the good. But the human mind and body are miracles which machines would be hard put to, to surpass, in the long run.

3rd PRIZE

THE LIMIT

Ministers are more famous for mouthing fatuous and impractical suggestions than for coming up with thought-provoking ideas. One such motion was propounded by the Union Minister of State for Labour, Dr. Ramkripal Sinha, who feels that the age limit for women wishing to take up government jobs should be raised to 35 from the present 25. This, according to him, will enable women to concentrate on their families for at least 15 years before taking up jobs. Though his reasoning is faulty — with the cost of living going up day by day, women are hardly likely to wait till 35 to start working — his idea is worth acting upon. It will certainly increase employment opportunities for women, especially older women who are more likely to have time on their hands. At the same time, it will not debar younger women needing jobs from taking them up.

SRINIVAS M. KAMATH Bombay.

Only a few issues ago we said women would be grateful for anything employers can do for the working woman. By the time a woman is thirty-five and has finished seeing her children through school (or almost), she finds she has lost out on all job opportunities, often despite her qualifications. It is, therefore, encouraging that the government is giving a thought to this problem.

OUTWARD JOY

She was fair and pretty — a child widow. She had the most beautiful smile and a glow one normally finds on the face of a very religious and saintly person. Widow remarriage was taboo then. Otherwise, Krishnabai would have lived the role of a happily married wife. But there was no one, in those days, who would care for a child bride's feelings.

I was a little girl myself, when I saw and heard her singing beautiful bhajans in her sweet voice. She spent most of her time reading religious books and giving "pravachans". Everyone liked her. She lived a simple life wearing her nine-yard saree in the traditional way. She must have been God's child. For the end came suddenly. She complained of pain and felt a lump in her breast. Cancer was scarcely heard of then. News came a few days later that she had died peacefully. Could there have been many more like Krishnabai, who with the scar of widowhood lived a lonely, secluded life, yet outwardly, so serene, quiet and happy?

MAYA KAMAT, Pune.

Yes, there have been, and are, countless Krishnabais who bloom and die like some unlikely mountain flowers. Child widows have an especially heavy burden to bear — indeed, the very term "child widow" is an abomination.

STIRRING PARTNERS

There is a new breed of young men today that is taking to cooking rather seriously. These men want to eat better and know that they can do so if they develop a flair for the culinary art. But, no need to worry about this, ladies! Once men really get into cookery, they will treat it as a hobby and will spend lots of time and money on it. So, once a woman has her husband enrolled in a cooking class, she'll never have to worry about good equipment in her kitchen. Men are fascinated by appliances and usually want the very best. Therefore, let us get our husbands to learn the art of cookery in order to liberate ourselves, if not actually from the kitchen then, at least, by acquiring the latest gadgets which will save all the drudgery.

INDIRA ANANTHAKRISHNAN New Delhi

We advocate the idea of men learning to cook. But your plan may plainly misfire — it is likely the husbands will find their wives to be the most convenient gadgets... to do all the grinding and churning while "the boss' only stands and stirs!

Poise Deodorant keeps you nice to be near... all the time. Use it after a bath for a delightful feeling of freshness. And all-day protection from body-odour.
Poise Roll-on or Spray.
In delicately-fresh perfumes that linger.
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READERS' VOICE

Most articles raise a question, a comment or at least a criticism. Write them down and mail them to us!

MIDWIFE DADS

Your article on "Midwife Dads" (Jan. 14) was very interesting. The photograph of a father severing his child's umbilical cord was really heart warming. In my opinion, every woman like me would feel more statisfied and happy if she sees her husband cutting the cord. She will feel more attached and more affectionate towards him. On the other side, it will make the husband also more loving towards his wife and child when he sees the great and painful part the wife plays at the time of her delivery. This will also make the husband more attached to his family, thereby reducing divorces and break up of marriages. I hope this system is also introduced in India.

USHA SIVADAS, Kerala

INDIAN WOMEN AND SEX

While I thank your reviewer for a fairly longish review of my book, 'INDIAN WOMEN AND SEX', in your issue of January 20, I wish to disagree with her in some of her observations.

She has completely ignored the fact that a sociological study on woman and sex is a most Herculean task in this country because of the unavailability of data. No Indian woman likes to discuss her sexual experiences — not even those daring women who openly take to prostitution! I wrote letters to approximately 200 lady doctors, hoping that they at least would not mind revealing some of the interesting facts that come to their knowledge from their patients. Most of them expressed their inability to discuss "the embarrassing" thing called sex! You can imagine how difficult my work must have been.

The 'tribute' paid to Indian women at the beginning of the book for the qualities of greatness that they have was to make it quite clear to the readers that the writer of the book, although a male, does not suffer from the so-called 'male-chauvinism' which has denied social justice to our women.

What your critic has described as a 'howler' in a light-hearted spirit needs serious consideration: "Penetration is a male fad which does not have the same value in woman's thought". Being a woman, she has not understood the significance of the statement. The male ego somehow finds satisfaction in deep penetration or what I would like to explain psychologically as the feeling of 'tearing apart' — the same thing that has made the virginity of their brides such a desirable thing for males. Often, after the wife has had a baby, the man starts thinking that the woman's private parts have become too loose for the satisfying feeling of 'deep penetration' and starts looking for that which he misses, elsewhere. This is the male fad of penetration (a step further in the virile, male-oriented societies, and you have the same satisfaction causing a hankering for sodomy) I was talking about. Women are really not so bothered about the feel of penetration that has a 'tight' or difficult passage, because the rubbing of the sensitive parts produces the effect for her, not merely the infliction of pain or difficult passage, without which man's pleasure is not fully satisfying.

About the estimates — that 85 per cent of city girls have some kind of experience of petting, while 55 per cent of city girls have pre-marital coital experience — for this to be considered questionable by a city woman comes as a surprise to me! I thought my finding were rather on the modest side. In fact, I went entirely by the findings of a random sample and not at all by my views and I sincerely believe that the random sampling has given me slightly less than what I otherwise believe. I think more than 55 per cent of city girls have coital experience before their marriage, though many of them might have been the unwilling victims of such experience. Poverty, helplessness, blackmail, incestuous relations and 'sales-womanship' — all these contribute to this factor. The point is that it is high time we accepted this fact.

S. N. RAMPAL, New Delhi

NEXT WEEK

ISSUE OF FEBRUARY 24

POPULARISING ODISSI

Protima Bedi, notorious in yesteryears for certain of her pursuits, has in the last few years turned her serious attention to dancing. She has now established herself as a popular performer of the Odissi dance form and has recently established a dance centre in Bombay to promote and teach the art of Odissi.

DEFINING GOOD LOOKS

What exactly are peoples' concepts of "good-looking"? A light-hearted feature, for the concepts are often funny.

NO SMOKING PLEASE

Though more and more thinking people are giving up smoking, the number is far from enough. Considering the proven dangers and risks, it is incomprehensible why people continue to smoke. The effects on women smokers and their children are particularly alarming.

SEX AFTER ILLNESS

Dr. Prakash Kothari, a well-known Bombay sexologist, writes about the do's and don'ts in terms of sex after some of the common serious illnesses.

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A full-size paper pattern to help you make your own choli.

ALSO
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for that extra bounce and go.

PROTEIN for all-round brain and body growth.

VITAMINS & MINERALS for sturdier bones—a happy, healthy glow.

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The one solid food that provides all the ingredients vital to your baby's healthy growth

Makes your baby **Go, Grow, Glow**

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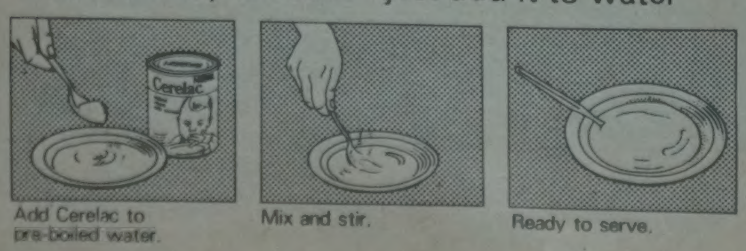
Baby's nutritionally complete cereal food.
Complete with milk, sugar... and love.

Is your baby 3 months already ? He now needs a well-balanced solid food for complete growth. Cerelac—the nutritionally complete infant cereal food—is a delicious blend of cereal, full-cream milk and sugar that gives your baby all the nourishment vital to his growing needs.

* The right balance of fats and carbohydrates to make your baby GO.
* Enough proteins to make your baby GROW.
* Extra vitamins and iron to make your baby GLOW.

It's so easy to make—just add it to water



Add Cerelac to pre-boiled water. Mix and stir. Ready to serve.

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THE LURE OF DIAMONDS

Indra Gidwani

Farokh Reporter

The sparkle of diamonds is dull compared to the glitter in the eyes of those who seek or possess them. Diamonds, even more than gold, have aroused the wildest passions of men . . . and women. For they are the symbol of love, and wealth.

The wearing of jewellery is an ancient custom and in early societies appeared to be of primary importance after the seeking of food and shelter. The wearing of pretty stones was originally apparently motivated by a desire to remember the spring with its promise of food and warmth, and later became the personal adornment, a symbol of rank or wealth.

The demand for diamond jewellery increased with the spread in the custom of giving a diamond engagement ring in the West. From the fifteenth century onwards, the diamond is mentioned as the brides' jewel. So, today, when you get a diamond engagement ring, you are following a tradition started 500 years ago — a tradition that says an engagement is only complete with a diamond ring. The diamond's very name (from the Greek **adamas,** meaning unconquerable) suggests strong and enduring love. The ancients called it the sunstone because of its brilliant flashes of light. Like love, it "sent forth a flame without the aid of fire".

The engagement ring has shown few changes in style for at least the last 200 years. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries 'Gipsy' rings were favoured as engagement rings. These consisted of a broad band of gold into which one or three diamonds were sunk deep. With the coming of the twentieth century, the seven-stone diamond cluster became high fashion for a time. Big changes took place in jewellery design around 1910, when platinum became popular as a setting for gems. Diamonds could now be held in place by metal 'claws', and so set raised from the ring itself. About this time too, the ring shank became much narrower. Today gold is popular again as a setting for engagement rings. But it is the diamond itself which continues to be the accepted symbol of the engagement promise, a permanent reminder of love. Today, in many countries a diamond is given on all sorts of occasions — a birthday or wedding anniversary, the birth of a grandchild.

Although India was familiar with the diamond long before the West, the demand for diamond jewellery is still very limited — only two per cent of cut and polished diamonds are used for domestic consumption. Indians have more confidence in gold and diamonds will never be a mass consumption item like gold. Even today, rural folks know nothing about diamonds; for them it's just a piece of glass. Diamond jewellery sells only in big cities like Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras.

In the India of rajahs and maharajas, large diamonds were badges of rank and also convenient portable wealth. All the big diamonds in India now are from princely collections. The Nizam of Hyderabad's collection is the biggest. The Maharaja of Bhavnagar too has a good collection of red, green, blue and pink diamonds.

The Gemological Institute of America (GIA), a non-profit organisation, evaluates and grades diamonds for a fee of $35 per stone. Most diamond experts counsel prospective investors to insist on GIA certification of any gems they might buy. In India, the certificate system is still not in vogue although there is a laboratory in Bombay for testing diamonds run by the Gemological Institute of India.

Mr. Pratap Zaveri of Tribhovandas Bhimji Zaveri & Sons, who sell fabulous diamond jewellery, says, "If bought from a reliable jeweller diamonds have a better investment value. While gold prices keep fluctuating, diamond prices only go up. We take back our own diamonds at five per cent less. We are the only jewellers to give a certificate for diamonds to anybody who comes to us for evaluation. The certificate is issued by our internationally-acclaimed expert who certifies the weight, purity and quality of diamond ornaments and loose diamonds."

Mr. Zaveri feels that the government is discouraging the sale of diamond jewellery by its taxation policy. The sales tax on dia-

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Jewellery Courtesy :
Narbheram Minawalla Jewellers, Bombay.

Continued on page 18

ADVENTURES WITH UNNIKRISHNAN

A. Lukose

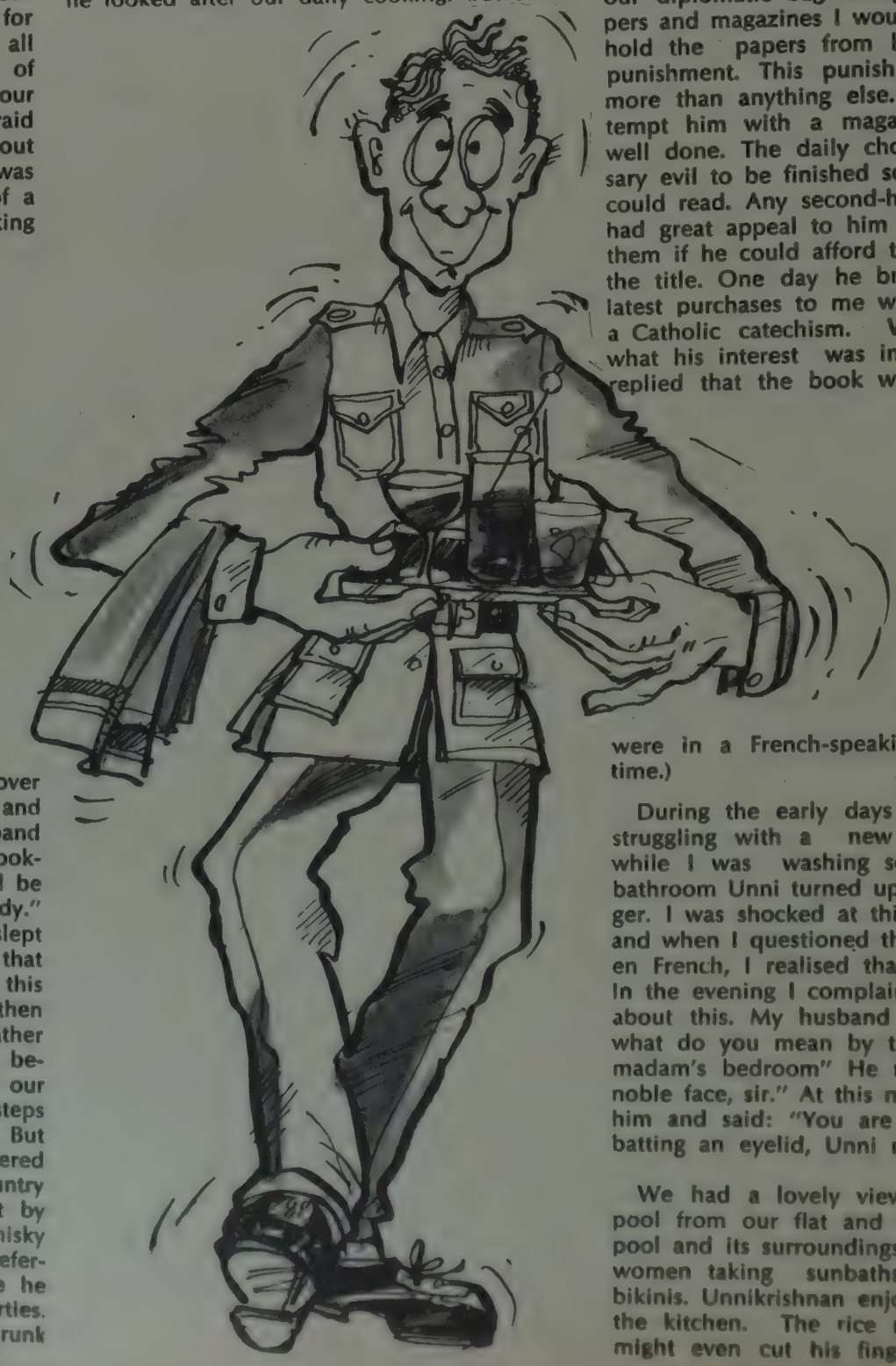
In diplomatic life we are allowed to take Indian servants with us when we go abroad, at government expense, and the number of servants permitted for each officer vary with his rank. This is a great service that the Indian government does for its diplomats because servants are very difficult to come by in foreign countries and are very expensive.

In one of our postings abroad we happened to have a very interesting servant who gave us quite a few hilarious moments. Though he did not have much formal education he was well versed in English which he could both read and write better than our present-day graduates. Even when he came for his interview he ended up by saying that apart from cooking for us he would look after our public relations as well. This seemed interesting and we decided to give him a trial.

In the beginning the automatic lifts and various other ultra-modern devices in Western countries were matters of some discomfort to him, but he got over them very quickly. His room was on the ground floor of our block of flats in a row that was reserved for servants. He was the only man there, all others being maids from different parts of Europe. One night he climbed up to our sixth floor flat (he was still a little afraid of the lift) and rang the bell. It was about 11 p.m. When I opened the door there was Unni leaning on the door complaining of a severe chest pain. We got alarmed thinking it could be a heart attack for he was over 60. However, we brought him inside and asked him to lie down. While my husband and I were discussing what to do Unni looked up and said in a feeble voice: "I will be alright if you give me a dose of brandy." We gave it to him and thereafter he slept like a log. I must mention at this point that he never had another "heart attack" of this type as long as he was with us. From then on we had a suspicion that he was rather fond of the bottle and his subsequent behaviour during cocktail parties confirmed our suspicion and we took the necessary steps to keep the bottles out of his reach. But this did not worry him; he soon discovered that booze was rather cheap in that country and he could always quench his thirst by keeping a few bottles in his room. Whisky and brandy, "high-class drinks" as he referred to them, were expensive and these he could get only during our cocktail parties. On such occasions, he used to get drunk with a terrible hangover the next day. I found it difficult to wean him away from this and once when I threatened to write to his wife, he replied: "Kochamma, that is not Christian charity. You must not create a rift between a husband and wife."

Unni was a real 'character'. He came to us to do our cooking, but told us that he would look after our 'public relations' as well. He provided enough hilarity to make our life abroad very interesting

Unni was not much of a cook although he looked after our daily cooking. But since he did not like to admit his ignorance he would take on any assignment. I once asked him to make fried rice, and he literally fried the raw rice in deep oil and produced it on the table.



Reading was a passion with him and he would read whatever came his way. When our diplomatic bag brought the Indian papers and magazines I would sometimes withhold the papers from him as a kind of punishment. This punishment affected him more than anything else. Often I used to tempt him with a magazine to get a job well done. The daily chores were a necessary evil to be finished somehow so that he could read. Any second-hand books for sale had great appeal to him and he would buy them if he could afford them irrespective of the title. One day he brought some of his latest purchases to me which included even a Catholic catechism. When I asked him what his interest was in that subject he replied that the book was in English. (We were in a French-speaking country at that time.)

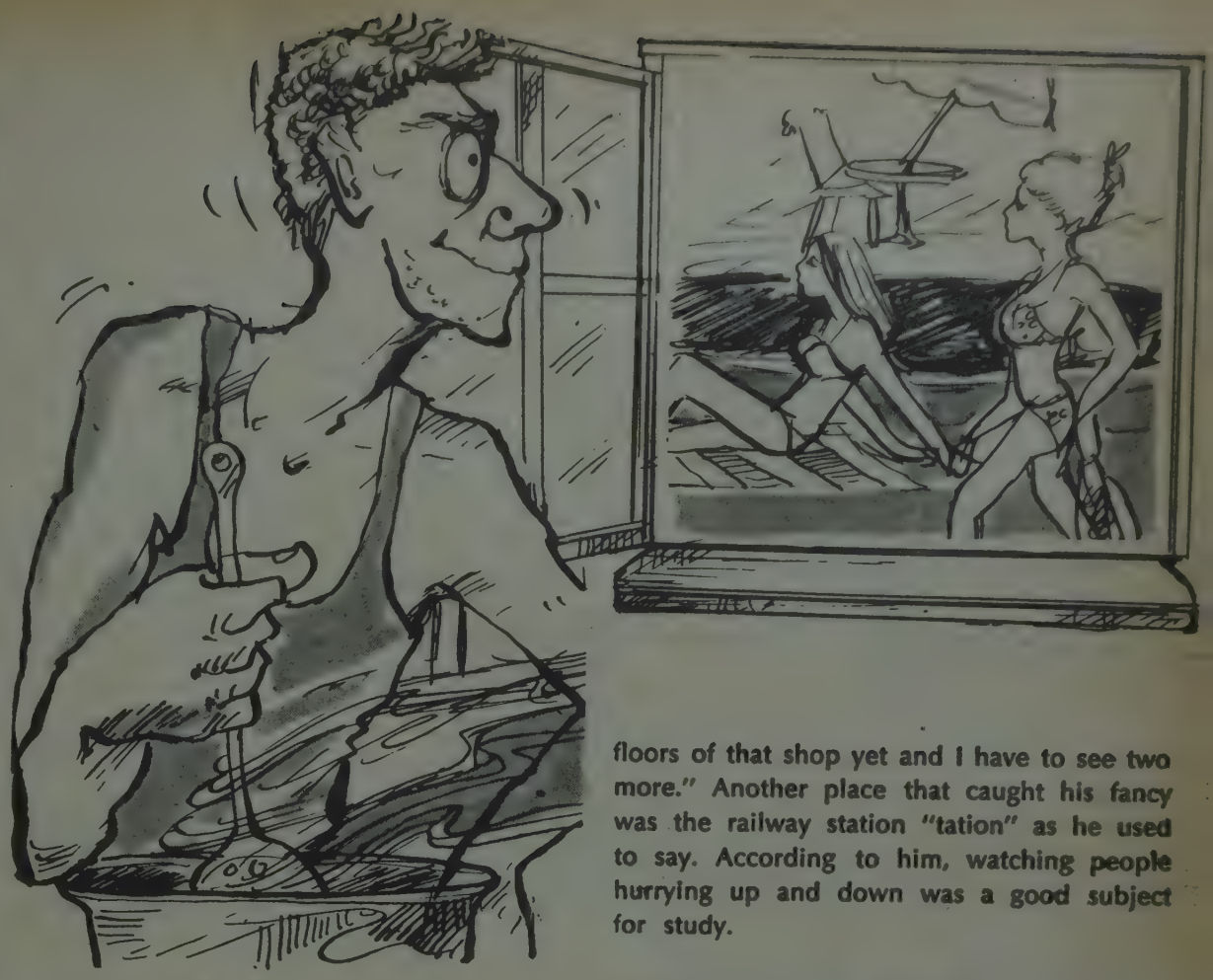
During the early days when I was still struggling with a new language one day while I was washing some clothes in the bathroom Unni turned up there with a stranger. I was shocked at this strange behaviour and when I questioned the man in my broken French, I realised that he was a begger. In the evening I complained to my husband about this. My husband called him. "Unni, what do you mean by taking a stranger to madam's bedroom" He replied: "He had a noble face, sir." At this my husband rebuked him and said: "You are an idiot." Without batting an eyelid, Unni replied "Yes, sir."

We had a lovely view of the swimming pool from our flat and during summer the pool and its surroundings used to be full of women taking sunbaths in their meagre bikinis. Unnikrishnan enjoyed this view from the kitchen. The rice may boil over, he might even cut his fingers while chopping

the vegetables, but his eyes were glued on the bathing beauties. Once when I scolded him for surveying the pool the whole time, he answered with a perfectly serious face: "But madam, where else can I get such a view? Do you think it will be possible after I go back to India"?

Unni was very proud of his new suit. Once when he came back after a walk he told me with glee, "madam, I think the people on the road think I am a retired ambassador." He also acquired a hat from a friend of ours and then said I should take a snap of his to be sent to his wife. I agreed. So one morning he turned up in his finery complete with suit, hat and shoes and posed for his photograph. I was busy adjusting the camera so I did not pay attention to his dress. When the snap was developed we noticed that the hat was perched on his head with the flat side in front. When my husband pointed out this mistake to him he said calmly, "Yes, sir. Now I know that it is no use a cook trying to look like an ambassador."

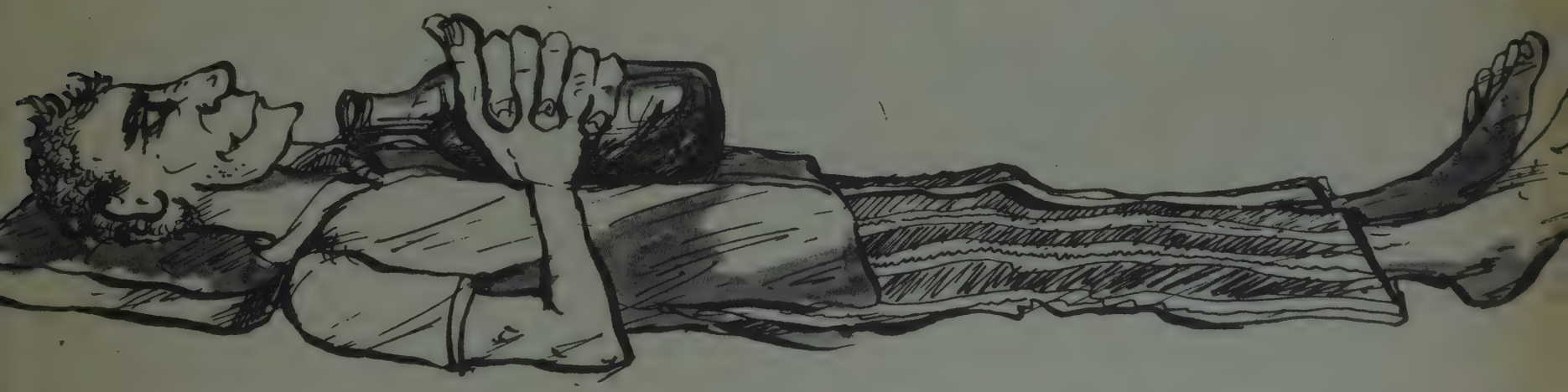
Unni preferred to talk to us in English. He was also a man very conscious of his rights. One day my mother-in-law, who was visiting us at that time, said to him when he had sneezed rather loudly. "Unni, when you are about to sneeze you must hold the tip of your nose and then it will subside." He was not at all pleased with this advice. I heard him grumbling in the kitchen, probably for my benefit, "sneezing is a fundamental right. Even this is not allowed in this house." Whenever a mistake was pointed out to him he had a ready answer, usually very different from the ordinary answers we are used to, like when I had remarked that he had burned a new tray he said the tray had suffered a heat stroke.



me I did not speak to him for some time. He came up to me and said: "Doctors have told me that I must do some talking every day. Otherwise, my voice is likely to fail. So if you do not talk to me what will happen to my voice?" I burst out laughing and so the quarrel was over. In fact, he became such an interesting character that he was a subject of conversation at parties. Whenever there was a lull in the conversation I had only to introduce this subject and soon everyone would be roaring with laughter.

floors of that shop yet and I have to see two more." Another place that caught his fancy was the railway station "tation" as he used to say. According to him, watching people hurrying up and down was a good subject for study.

I think he even started learning to dance because he gave me a hint about it once, but I did not encourage that conversation. He thoroughly enjoyed his sojourn in this country. He felt that the people were friendlier than Indians and he was accepted in many circles. How he overcame the language barrier is a mystery to me, because he did not learn any French. We have seen him coming back to the flat around midnight after his party. I never doubted his morals but once when he was tipsy he tried his key in the door of another room by mistake but this gave the maid of that room such a fright that she complained about it the next day.



Apart from speaking English he also enjoyed writing it. If there was a phone call in our absence he would write out the whole message in meticulous English and leave it beside the phone for us. Once when I commented on this, he said he was a petitions writer before he came to us. We had ample evidence of this later on. Whenever he had any complaints he would write them out neatly in the form of an epistle with a number of "your good self" and "your humble self" thrown in, seal it in an envelope and present it to my husband in the tray along with the morning tea. We used to enjoy reading these memorandums. One could not be angry with him for long.

Once when he was a little cheeky with

We used to give him an afternoon off every week. The two places that interested him most were an English bookshop and a departmental store, both of which happened to be on the same street. He would get into the bus and travel as far as the fare would take him even though the bus went past his destination. He did not mind walking back but he wanted the full benefit of the fare. He used to refer to the shop as a permanent exhibition and, according to him, what was more one did not have to pay to see the exhibition. After three years when we were about to leave the country he told me with a sad expression, "I have only seen three

He was greatly interested in politics. He was an authority on the old Travancore politics. He used to relate stories about C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer and his glorious days as dewan of Travancore. He could rattle off the names of various cabinet ministers and other important political people. I feel he was a man who really missed his vocation. If he had had more formal education and opportunities he would certainly have mark in politics.

A DIALOGUE WITH MYTHOLOGY

An accomplished sculptor Mani Narayan is self-taught. She has had two joint shows with her sculptor husband G.L. Narayana, which won critical acclaim. Observing him and assisting him while at work in his studio, Mani first started carving in wood then moved on to stone and marble.

Her exquisitely chiselled **Geisha** in teak wood was awarded the first prize at the International Women's Year 1975 Exhibition, organized by the Artists' Centre in Bombay. Her **Amma** in marble won a certificate of merit of the Bombay Arts Society in 1977. And at the Silver Jubilee show of the Artists' Centre last year, Mani won a prize for her work **Possession** in marble. Mani would now like to project herself as an individual sculptor and will be having a solo exhibition this year.

This versatile artiste has also a flair for collages in mythological themes and tantric forms. She uses beads and sea-shells, coloured sand, chips of stones, pieces of mirror and paints. Mani indulges in this decorative art form as a hobby. She appears to be fascinated with folk art and draws her inspiration from mythology.

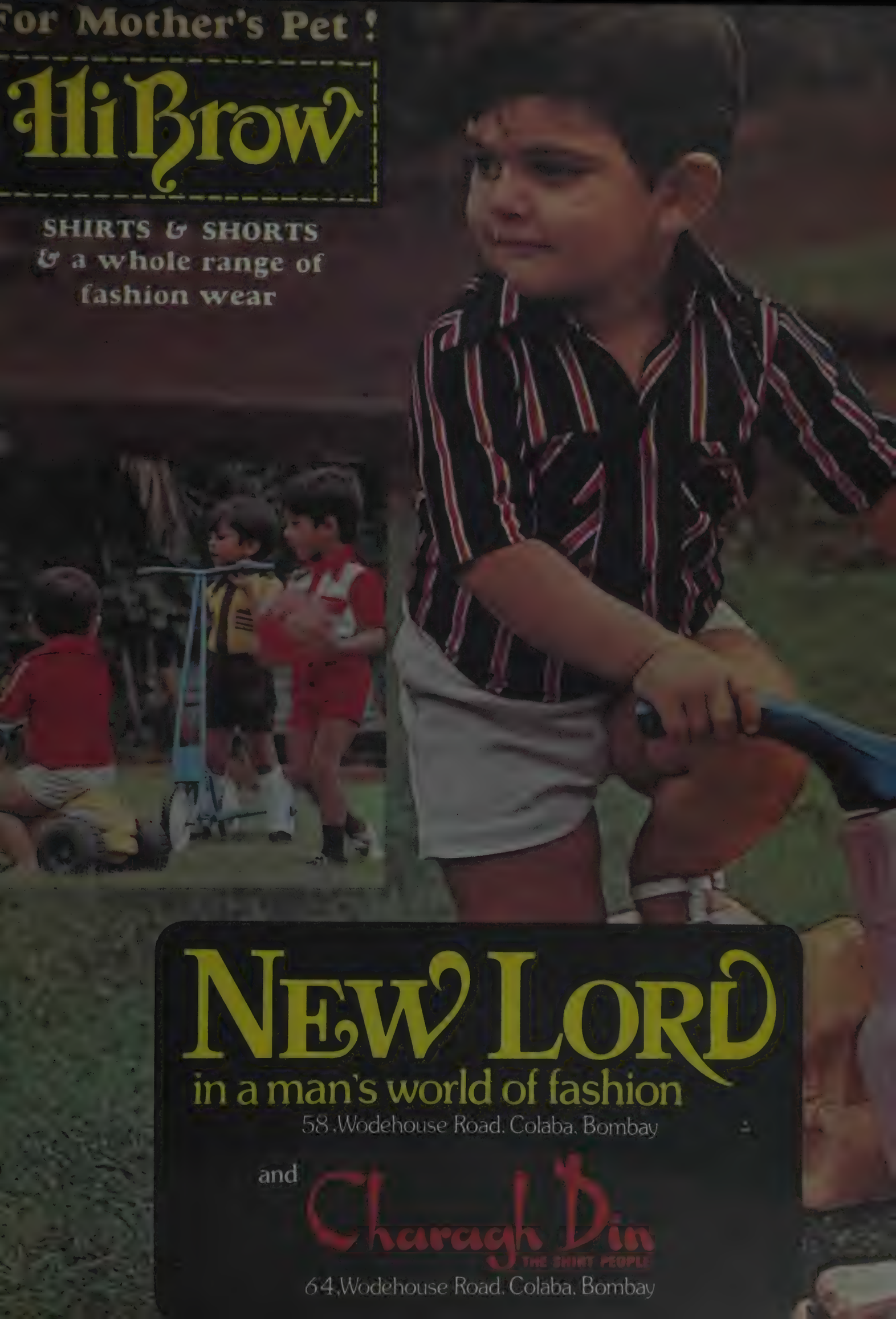
C. J.

ABOVE: Vanalakshmi — a forest deity venerated by the tribal people.

RIGHT: Tripura Sundari is worshipped mainly on Dasara. The red in the collage represents Parvati, yellow stands for Lakshmi and white for Saraswati.

TOP: Images of Balaram, Subhadra and Jagannath. The idol of Jagannath is taken out in a procession on a giant wooden chariot, at the Rath Yatra held annually in Jagannath Puri, Orissa.

Photographs : Farokh Reporter


For Mother's Pet !
HiBrow
SHIRTS & SHORTS
& a whole range of
fashion wear
NEW LORD
in a man's world of fashion
58, Wodehouse Road, Colaba, Bombay
and
Charagh Din
THE SHIRT PEOPLE
64, Wodehouse Road, Colaba, Bombay

WOMEN IN SPORT

Our sportswomen need and deserve more attention and encouragement than they get. We do our bit on this page.

THE RISING TENNISTARS

A pig-tailed 13-year-old girl, who barely seems to clear the five-foot mark (though she indignantly claims to be at least "five-two") almost laid low the former Asian champion Nirupama Mankad in the Maharashtra State Hard Court Tennis Championships. Rina Einy won the hearts of the crowds in Pune with a display of skill and stamina, the like of which has rarely been seen in India in one so young.

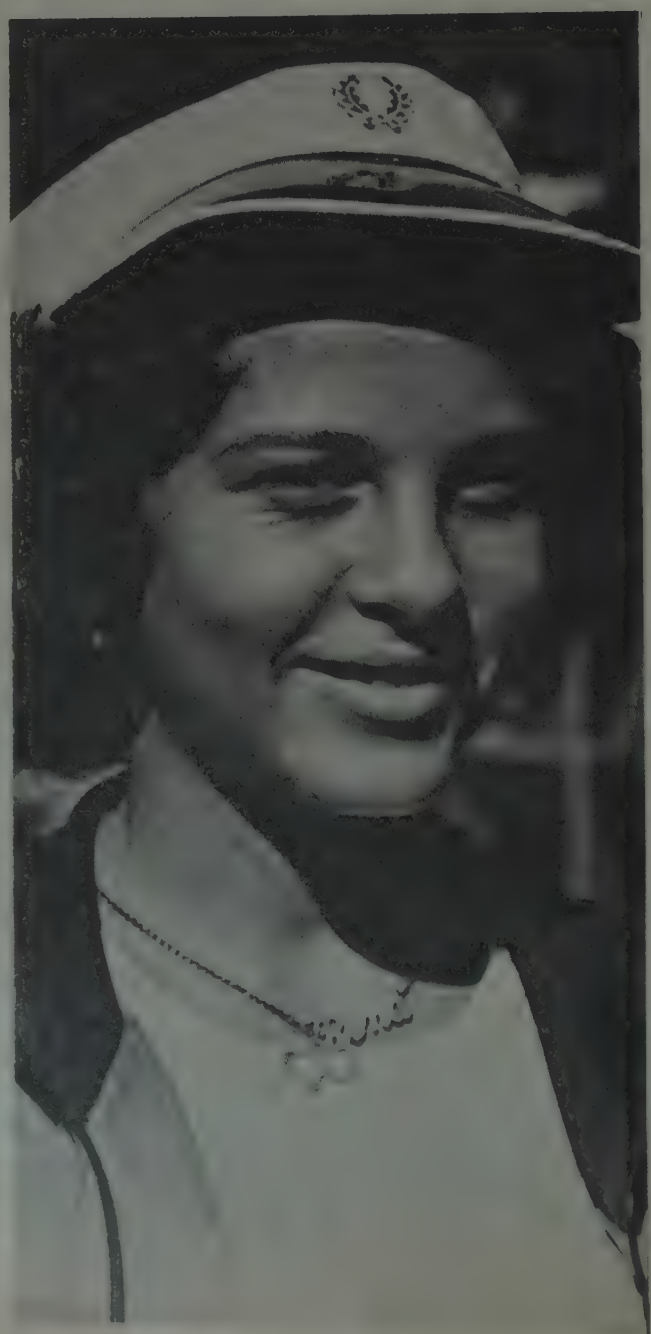
Some months ago Radhika Bose of Bombay, also a sub-junior, had won the women's singles title in the Western India Badminton Championships with a display of tireless running and hard hitting. National chess champion Rohini Khadilkar is also not yet fifteen years old. It seems as if the youngsters are out to set the national sports scene on fire.

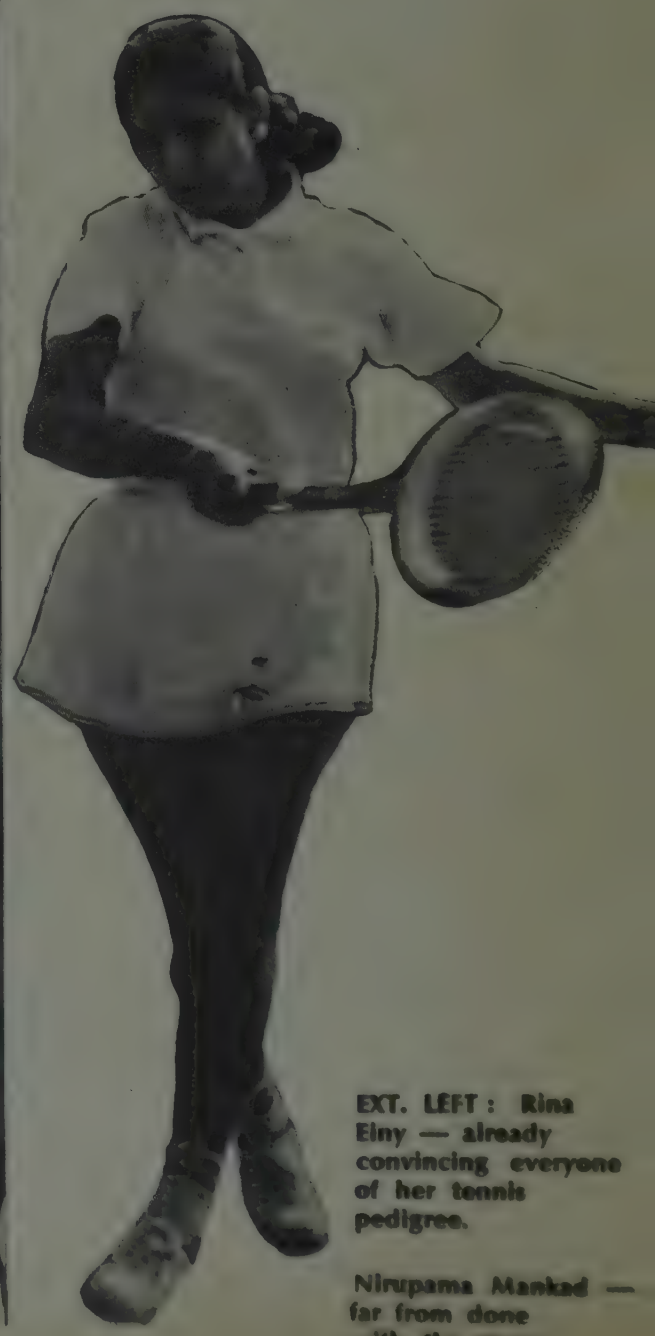
Rina was in rousing form in the semi-finals as she settled an old score with former national junior champion, Susan Sinclair-Jones, also from Calcutta. Starting a little hesitatingly and losing the first set at 4-6, Rina shook off memories of her 0-6, 0-6 whipping at the hands of Susan in Bombay in 1976, to so totally turn the tables on her opponent that it was Susan who could not manage a single game in the remaining two sets of the match! Rina kept the ball deep, and let her topspin backhand and forehand strokes do the rest. Susan kept hitting the net.

The 13-year-old Calcutta schoolgirl could have been expected to be nervous against Mrs. Mankad, almost a legend in Indian tennis, in the finals. But Rina did not baulk at Niru's steady ground strokes, and returned them with interest attached to level the set scores at one-all after Niru looked like running away with the match at one stage. It was of little consequence that she lost the decider at 3-6; Rina had done enough to convince everyone present of her tennis pedigree. Her effort was all the more creditable as she was participating in as many as five events.

Crossing over to Bombay to play in the Western India and the Masters, Rina continued the good work, laying low all the juniors who have invaded the women's tennis arena. With the exception of the strong Amreet Ahluwalia and Anu Peshwaria, none of the other girls really bothered Rina. While Radha Pandit did score over the Calcutta girl in a three-hour match at 4-6, 7-5, 14-12 in a ladies' singles quarter-final, she thrashed Radha the very next day, conceding just two games in two sets. Christabelle Fernandez, Bela Pandit, Lynn de Souza, Nandini Rangarajan — none of these girls could trouble the smooth-stroking Rina. A knowledgeable critic, who watched Rina's match against Niru at Pune, had asserted that if Rina had been concentrating on one or two events, and if she could have served a little better, there was no reason why she could not have beaten Niru that day.

While Rina's spectacular performances put all other matters in the shade. it is only right to record here that Niru is far from done with the game. When she was beaten in the National semi-final in Delhi some





EXT. LEFT : Rina Einy — already convincing everyone of her tennis pedigree.

Nirupama Mankad — far from done with the game.

weeks ago by junior Anu Peshwaria (the younger sister of Kiran, who also was a brilliant player in the early seventies) it seemed as if it was only a matter of time before the rest of the

Susan Sinclair-Jones — former national junior champion.

junior crop would be able to get past her. But the 32-year-old mother of one is by no means down yet.

Sporting a knee-cap on her trick right knee, Niru showed all evidence of her former speed of foot and steadiness, as she bagged three titles in Maharashtra, including her favourite Western India championship for the fifteenth time. From that day in 1961 when she won her first Western India crown as a teenager, Niru has proved the most consistent woman tennis player in the country. Her shots rake the sidelines, she advances instinctively to the net after a deep ground stroke, and her smash is accurate and well-placed. She proved that her loss to Anu at Delhi was on a really bad day, as she put Anu in her place in the semi-final at Pune at 6-7, 6-1, 6-3.

The match really awaited with much interest was between Niru and Amreeta Ahluwalia, the hardest hitter in domestic women's tennis today. Amreeta had won the National championship, conceding a total of three games to Anu, and had allowed none of the other girls to come anywhere near her. But Niru in Bombay was totally in her element. Trailing 1-3, she shrewdly prolonged the rallies, keeping the ball in court and letting the erratic Amreeta make all the mistakes. The tactics paid rich dividends, and the match was over 6-3, 6-2 in less than an hour. Certainly, if she continues playing like she is doing currently, Niru can continue at the top for another year at least.

A few words about the others who make women's tennis these days worth watching. Bespectacled Anu has a sound all-court game, and drives well on both flanks. Her occasional mistake is the defensive lapse when she prefers the short lob. Niru especially smashed each of these amiable offerings out of sight. Christabelle Fernandez of Bombay, who was abroad for training for a couple of months last year, is a vastly improved player, and is one of the few girls to advance to the net for the volley. Radha and Bhuvaneshwari are the other two enterprising players. Most of the other girls are baseliners. Most of these girls also need to improve their service if they hope to make any mark on the international scene.

RELAY RECORD

During the month under review, a national athletics record fell by the wayside. The Greater Bombay relay quartet of Velthy Gaeiro, Mercy Meneres, Leena Chaiwala and Judith Fernandes rendered the old national mark of 52.1 seconds for the 4 x 100 metres obsolete by clocking 51.8 seconds. The old mark had been set by Bengal and had stood for four years. The tremendous achievement was even more laudable as the runners were all under 16 years of age. Judith, the anchor of the team, especially impressed with her sprinting speed, to make up for faulty baton exchange at the second lap. She is fast stepping into the shoes of her elder sister, Merlin, the former Bombay sprint queen. Judith won a sprint double with the 100 m. and the 200 m. titles, bumping off the Maharashtra state record in the latter event.

Another woman sprinter who deserves mention this month is Lorraine Fernandes, also from Bombay. Lorraine, better known for her hockey prowess for which she has bagged an Arjuna Award, bettered sprint records for the 100 and 200 metres in the All-India Civil Services Athletic Meet. These girls must be taken under the wing now if we are to defend our athletics reputation, won brilliantly by Geeta Zutshi and Angel Mary Joseph at the recent Bangkok Asiad. Within four years, India will be hosting the Ninth Asian Games in Delhi; these girls are good prospective sprint medalists.

ACE SHOOTERS

All over the world, women are entering fields hitherto dominated entirely by men. Last month's column spoke of Rohini Khadilkar and Nalini Bolinjkar in the arenas of chess and carrom. This month, the girl in the limelight is Gujarat's Shetali Shah, a markswoman who bettered the performance of her male counterparts in the All-India Inter-University Shooting Meet. In the .22 open sight rifle event, she notched up a higher score than all the men in the event; and also bagged the .177 open sight air rifle championship. As if to prove that it wasn't just one woman barging into male territory, Durga Saini, representing Kurukshetra, shot 430 to eclipse the tally of the men's winner Yogesh Shah (421). Perhaps for the Delhi Asiad these girls will be good enough to represent the country as did Bhuvaneshwari Kumari, daughter of ace marksman Karni Singh, at the 1974 Tehran Asiad. Who says we don't have a few Annie Oakleys ourselves?!

BASKETBALL TROPHY

Matters in women's basketball in the country are also worth taking a peep at. Railways and Maharashtra no longer dominate in the battle of the hoop. Reigning champs Railways were derailed at the quarter-final stage by the ultimate winners, Punjab, a robust side. The Maharashtra girls, second favourites on form, submitted meekly to Karnataka. That left the stage open for Punjab to take the Prince Basalatjah trophy for the first time by a 71-55 margin. Outstanding players for Punjab were Suman Sood, Sarita Sharma, and (a coincidental combination of these two names) Suman Sharma.

INTERNATIONAL SPORTSWOMAN OF THE MONTH : Undoubtedly, Lene Koppen of Denmark. The 27-year-old Copenhagen secretary, who is the reigning world women's badminton champion, held off four-times former All-England champion Hiroe Yuki's game attempt at winning the World Champions' Cup at Tokyo. Lene had won the world title in May 1977 at Malmo, Sweden. The fast, hard-hitting Lene must now be strong favourite to win the All-England Championships, the world's premier badminton tourney, in March 1979.

Shirish Nadkarni

THE LURE OF DIAMONDS

Continued from page 11

monds is 10 per cent and on gold it's only half per cent.

As far as export of jewellery is concerned, Mr. Zaveri says, "We are at a disadvantage because white gold alloy is not available here. We have to use 25 per cent platinum, which is not as good as white gold alloy. The government should allow us to import it against the export of diamonds as good finishing and good setting can be had only with white alloy. In the West, there's a law that every article should have a stamp of white gold alloy or 25 per cent platinum. In India, we don't have a refinery to refine and make exactly 25 per cent metal. Hence we can sell our jewellery only to private parties."

Mr. Kantilal Chottalal, a big diamond trader of Bombay, says, "Export of studded jewellery has not developed because of several constraints. We do not hallmark jewellery by which metal content has to be certified by the mint. Secondly, we don't make machine-made frames, which enable us to have a variety of designs, better finish and saving in metal. Thirdly, we don't have good centres in design development.

"Lastly, the government is not prepared to supply us precious metals at internationally controlled prices; platinum is not allowed to be imported for making jewellery."

Mr. M. D. Hegde of the Gem and jewellery Export Promotion Council says, "Since most of the jewellery exported is jewellery studded with diamonds, we have made a representation to the government that like gold jewellery, studded jewellery should also be covered by the Gold Replenishment Scheme. According to the Scheme, you are allowed to import gold at the international price against the exports. The government is likely to come out soon with an integrated gold replenishment scheme for all types of jewellery. We have suggested to them that we should get advance licences if there is a confirmed order. This is under consideration."

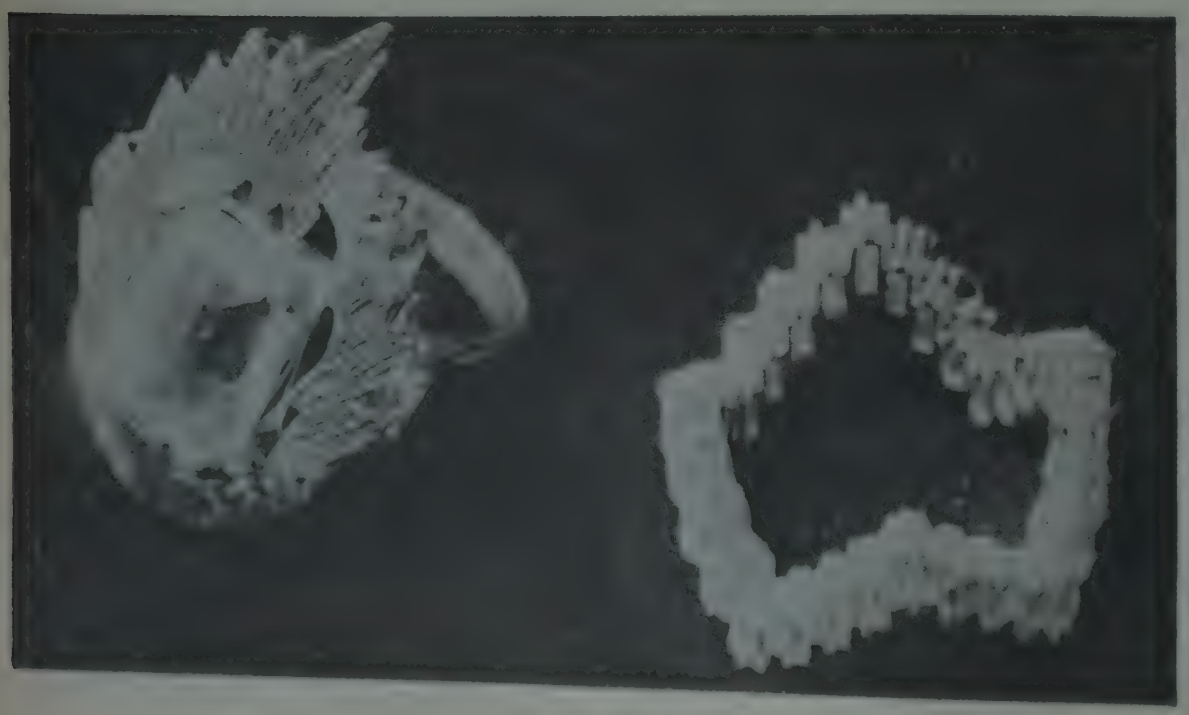
The government has now announced that the scheme for gold jewellery will be extended to cover gem-studded ornaments. For gem-studded ornaments, gold replenishment will be given to the extent of 80 per cent of the pure gold content at a concessional price related to the international price. This is much lower than the domestic price of gold which has shot up to over Rs. 90 per gramme.

The country will earn a lot of foreign exchange now that the Gold Replenishment Scheme is applicable to all kinds of jewellery. Says Mr. Hegde, "The main markets are the Persian Gulf countries. Kuwait alone accounts for about 60 to 70 per cent of our gold jewellery export. Saudi Arabia has not been developed by us. In Kuwait, Rs. one crore worth of diamond jewellery is sold in a day. We need encouragement, a proper import policy and no restriction on export of jewellery.

"Our export of gold jewellery at present is worth about Rs. 2.78 crores a year. With the change in government policy, we should be able to export jewellery worth Rs. 400 to Rs. 450 crores a year and most of it will be diamond-studded jewellery. Diamonds account for 93 per cent of the total export of gem jewellery and the balance consists of precious and semi-precious stones like rubies, emeralds, sapphires, agate, cat's eye, moonstone, etc. All these stones are exported loose as raw material for jewellery manufactured abroad. If we start manufacturing jewellery here for export purposes, it will fetch much more as it is labour intensive."

The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council is planning to set up a Jewellery Design Centre in Bombay with the co-operation of the Sir J.J. School of Art. The objective is to be in touch with the latest trends in design abroad and to incorporate them into our fabulous traditional designs. The Centre will make information available to artisans and traders here.

The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council is organising an Indian Jewellery Exhibition in Saudi Arabia soon.



Diamond rings, a glittering token of love.

SOME FAMOUS DIAMONDS

Most of the famous diamonds in history that still exist are Indian, and all have had eventful and sometimes bloody histories. Jean Baptiste Tavernier, the French jeweller and one of the first globe-trotters, brought a number of them to Europe.

The Koh-i-Noor or Mountain of Light, has the longest history of all famous diamonds. It was known to be in the possession of the Rajahs of Malwa as long ago as 1304 and was faceted in 1530. It is believed to have been set by the Moghul emperors in the

Diamond jewellery. There can be no better gift.

famous Peacock Throne as one of the peacock's eyes. (The other eye was the Akbar Shah diamond.) During this period, there was a belief that "he who owns the Koh-i-Noor rules the world". In 1739, Nadir Shah invaded India, captured Delhi and, after a pillage of the city, seized the diamond and carried it off to Persia. One of the stories has it that the vanquished Moghul ruler, Mohammed Shah, had hidden it inside his turban. When Nadir Shah discovered this, he took advantage of an old custom and invited his victim to a feast, suggesting that they exchange turbans. The vanquished ruler dared not refuse and Nadir Shah, retiring with the turban, unrolled its yards of silk and released the magnificient gem, which fell to the floor. It is then that he is supposed to have cried, "Koh-i-Noor!" and given the name to the stone. The Koh-i-Noor went to Persia with Nadir Shah but was again in India in the jewel chamber of Lahore, capital of the Punjab, when the state was annexed to the British Empire.

In 1849, the stone was taken by the East India Co. as partial indemnity after the Sikh Wars. It was presented to Queen Victoria in 1850 at a reception to mark the 250th anniversary of the East India Co. When displayed at the Crystal Palace Exposition in London in 1851, viewers were disappointed that it did not exhibit more fire; therefore Victoria decided to have it recut. Before cutting, the Koh-i-Noor was valued at $700,000. Queen Victoria wore the big diamond in a brooch; this perhaps gave rise to the superstition that only queens could wear it safely. Victoria willed it to her daughter-in-law, Queen Alexandra, who wore it at her coronation.

A new crown was made for the late Queen Mary in 1911, with the Koh-i-Noor as the central ornament. In 1937, it was transferred to the Queen Mother's Crown. The Queen Mother cintinues to wear the circlet of the crown, containing the Koh-i-Noor, on state occasions. It is one of the principal treasures in the British Crown jewels in the Tower of London.

The 410-carat Regent Diamond played a part in the French Revolution. It was one of the last big diamonds to be found in India, in 1701. It came to England and was named 'the Pitt', and the major part after recutting was resold to the Regent of France, when it acquired its current name. Later, Marie Antoinette wore it and on September 17, 1792, it was among the French Crown jewels that were stolen during the early stages of the French Revolution. Most of the treasures were quickly recovered but the Regent diamond did not come to light until 15 months later when it was found in a hole in a beam of a Paris garret.

During the Directoire period, the Regent and other diamonds were pawned to a Berlin banker for four million francs to keep fourteen French armies in the field. It was redeemed and then used as guarantee for a loan from a Dutchman. After it was again recovered, Napoleon Bonaparte had it set in the hilt of a sword he carried when being proclaimed Emperor of France. It is now in the Louvre in Paris.

The Hope Diamond, to which stories of tragedy have come to be attached, is supposed to have been part of the famous Blue Tavernier diamond from the Kollur mine in India, brought to Europe by Tavernier after he had bought it in 1642. It was also stolen during the French Revolution. The 44½-carat Hope Diamond is perhaps the largest of three parts into which the Blue Tavernier was cut. It is now in the Smithsonian Institution Museum in Washington.

From at least the fourth century B.C. India traded in diamonds with Mesopotamia, Israel, Egypt, Ceylon. Diamonds were prized by Romans for their magical powers. Rome also re-exported them to China as tool bits set in iron holders for cutting jade and for drilling pearls during the first five centuries A.D.

The Arabs and Persians monopolized trade between the Roman Empire and East Asia and, during the Middle Ages, between Europe and East Asia, until the sea route to India was discovered. It appears that they retained for themselves many of the finest diamonds from India and sold the poorer and smaller ones.

KIMBERLEY

The Home Of Diamonds

Kimberley in South Africa is the home of rough diamonds and it is the headquarters of De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd. which holds the world monopoly in this industry.

Kimberley is today a flourishing town in a semi-desert area, but still retains much of its old mining atmosphere. Town buildings extend almost to the edge of the exhausted Big Hole.

One of the finest of the old buildings being preserved is the headquarters of De Beers, who have resisted the temptation to have a modern steel and concrete block in its place. Kimberley always remained a very English town until recent times when a big railway depot was set up and the Afrikaans population rapidly increased.

Kimberley is the heart of an empire with assets totalling $1.6 billion in diamonds and gold (De Beers owns 30 per cent of Anglo-American Corp., the world's largest gold producer). Presiding over this treasure-trove is a slightly built, 70-year-old legend Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers and Anglo-American since 1957. Under his guidance, De Beers has seen its profits increase tenfold over the past decade. In the process the company has become South Africa's biggest earner of foreign exchange and its largest employer of black industrial labour.

De Beers grew out of a nineteenth-century diamond rush. It began in 1869 when a poor farmer in South Africa's Orange Free State found an 83-carat rough diamond. He sold it to one Schalk van Niekerk for a horse, ten oxen and 500 sheep. This diamond came to be eventually known as the Star of South Africa. Van Niekerk made a fortune and the rush was on. In no time, a tent city named New Rush blossomed in the arid wasteland. Later rechristened Kimberley (in honour of the British colonial secretary of the day), it was a wide-open boom town with a tavern and a brothel on every street corner. Diamond claims multiplied by the thousands. Streets collapsed as prospectors burrowed under them in search of instant wealth. Disputes were settled on the spot with picks and shovels.

Out of the chaos emerged Cecil John Rhodes, then a young entrepreneur fresh from England. Convinced that merger was the only way to bring order and profit to the Kimberley diamond fields, Rhodes formed a company to control the De Beers mine (named after two Dutch brothers who owned the original claim) and began buying up other claims. The new company quickly dominated Kimberley and began exploring in other parts of South Africa. That expansionism paid off spectacularly in 1905, when a 3,106-carat rock was plucked from the Premier diamond mine in the Transvaal, near Pretoria. It was the fabulous Cullinan diamond, the largest single-crystal gem ever unearthed — as big as a man's fist, possessing incalculable value. When cut, it yielded nine major gems, 96 small brilliants and 10 carats of polished fragments. The largest stones, the 530-carat Star of Africa and the 317-carat Cullinan 11, are part of the British Crown jewels.

Today De Beers owns vast alluvial deposits along the barren Atlantic coast of South Africa and Namibia. It holds deep-shaft mines in Kimberley and the Transvaal, and it markets uncut diamonds for producers from Botswana to Siberia. At its mining sites, thousands of De Beers employees live in De Beers-run towns, served by De Beers-run hospitals, sanitation services, utilities, restaurants, department stores and cinemas.

DIAMOND AS POISON

Emperor Fredrick II (1194-1250) died, according to legend, through a fatal dose of powdered diamond. The Turkish Sultan Bejazet (1447-1512) is said to have been poisoned to death by his son, who mixed a large amount of pulverized diamond in his father's food. In 1532. Pope Clement VII was ailing and was prescribed doses of powdered precious stones, including diamond, by his physicians. Apparently he failed to survive the fourteenth spoonful, by which time the bill was 40,000 ducats.

There are other records of the death of prominent people by diamond poisoning. Catherine de Medici's powder tipped into food or drink — the famous POUDRE DE SUCCESSION — is supposed to have been powdered diamond. Catherine was the wife of Henry II of France in the mid-sixteenth century.

The celebrated Italian seventeenth century goldsmith, Benvenuto Cellini, wrote at length about an attempt on his life by his enemy, P. L. Farnese, son of Paul III, who attempted to poison him by causing powdered diamond to be mixed with his salad. Cellini attributed his escape to the fact that the lapidary who was employed to pulverize the stone kept it for himself and substituted powdered glass for the diamond powder.

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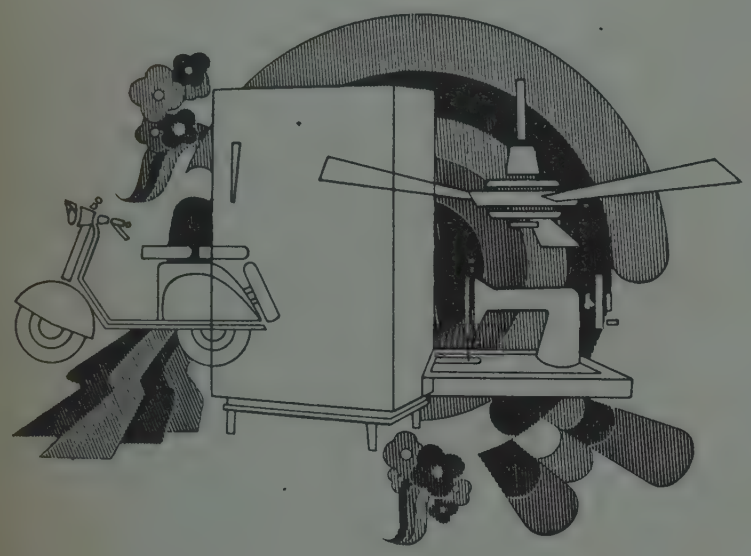

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This Festival Shattered My Complacency

SHABANA AZMI

talks to Harmeet Kathuria

This festival was really a marvellous experience. And such a humbling one, too.

I have been to many festivals in India and abroad. But this is really the first time I went to a festival as a serious student of acting — not of Cinema. When there were festivals in some other city in India, I would arrange my dates so that I would be shooting in that city during the festival days. And since I also happened to be working, I was not really able to give the festival my undivided attention. And when you go abroad, you always try to take some time off to see the places. So again, the festival doesn't get your undivided attention.

But this time it was different. For the first time I went to a festival and did nothing but see four films a day — from morning to evening — and had practically all the meals at the auditorium itself. And what an experience!

When you have sex in a film, it is sex which dominates over the performance. And when you have violence, it is violence which dominates. This festival didn't have either sex or violence. But it was very fulfilling to me as an actress because I got to see a lot of good performances.

And that is exactly why I said it was also a humbling experience. You see, of late, I had become very complacent. I know it for a fact that even if I don't give a good performance in the next two years, people will still think of me as essentially a good actress. And even I had generally started believing that I could act well. But the festival was a real eye-opener. I saw some performances which were so good that I came back feeling small. All actors are fond of saying that 'No actor can rise above his role.' But what I saw was something which totally contradicted this statement. In the smallest of roles and in the most routine of sequences, some actresses put in that little something by which they rose lengths above the role. They proved beyond doubt that the length of the role is not important for a true artiste. You can score with just a scene or two.

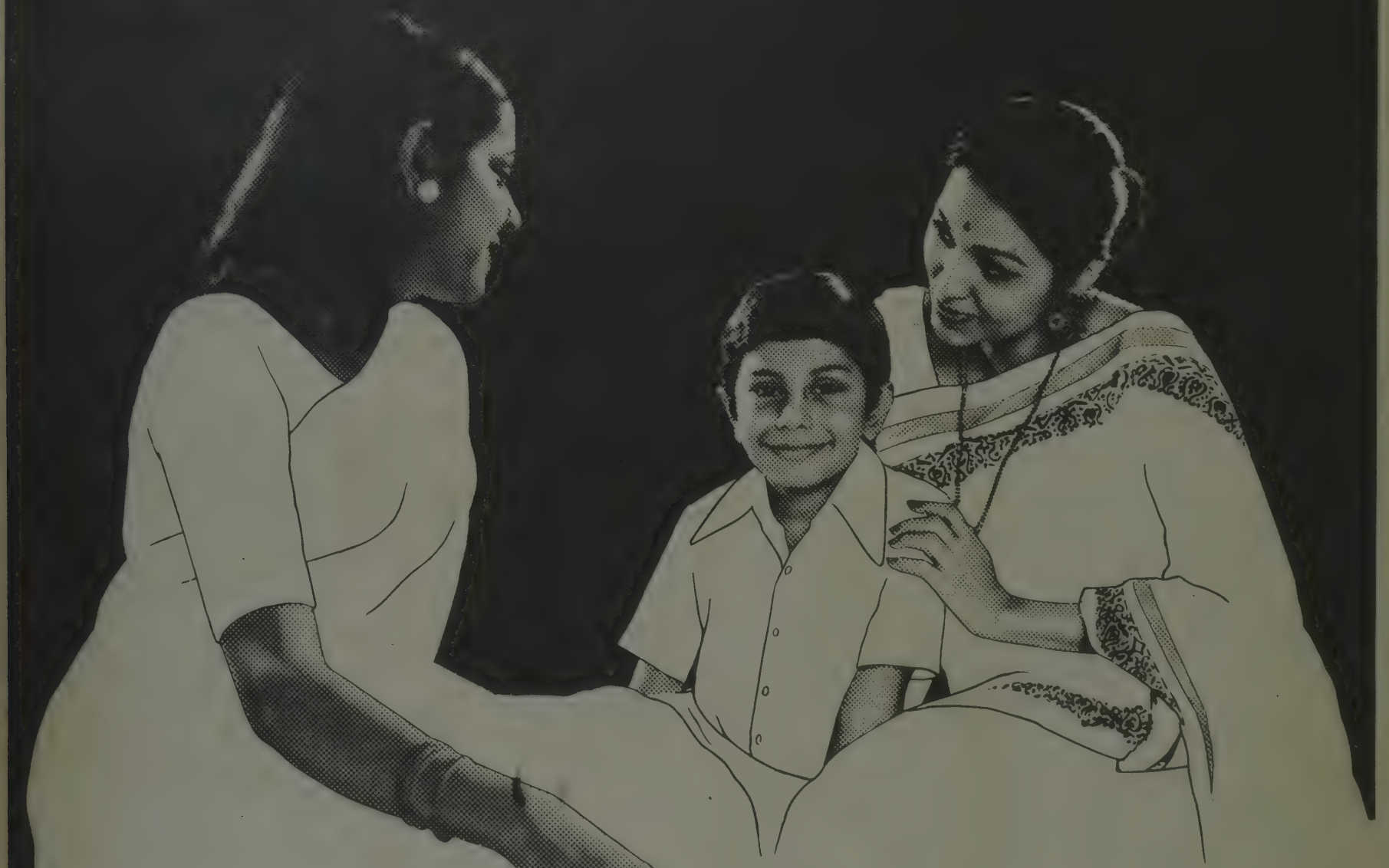
Sitting there, watching the films, I thought of all those times I had tried to justify my mediocre performances by blaming the roles and the films. I had mentally categorized my films. I used to tell myself: This film requires concentration on my part. This film doesn't require concentration on my part. But now I realise I was wrong. I should give my total concentration to all my films. I owe it to the producer of the film I'm working in — after all he is paying me as much as the other man. And I owe it to Shabana Azmi, the actress.

There was another observation I made during this festival. The world over it is the men who give all those powerful performances. It is the actors and not the actresses who have been all-time greats. It is because a woman feels scared of revealing herself. For instance, if I had to portray jealousy, the woman in me would prevent me from doing it with full conviction because I'd be scared of betraying myself. Besides very few actresses really use their voices the way actors do. The actors have much more command over the craftsmanship of acting than the actresses. Their perfection is calculated, their histrionics have a lot of hard work behind the performance.

The one area the actresses really score in is in emotional roles. Actresses, by and large, are more spontaneous. Give a good actress the role of a defeated and hurt person and she'll do it better than any actor. Because this is one sphere where the actors are scared of betraying themselves!

Photograph: Girish Sawle

When whiteness glows look–it shows...



it's washed with

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detergent cake

OPEN CLASSROOM

an experiment in widening educational horizons

Jeanne Prasad

Sophia College introduced last year a new concept of continuing education — the Open Classroom. The aim of the Open Classroom is to offer short-term courses that will cover areas totally ignored during formal education and professional training, as well as to awaken our society to an awareness of contemporary issues and problems. Most of these courses are directly related to occupations. The very term Open Classroom is self-explanatory — open to anyone who wishes to gain knowledge, learn to be creative, discover and develop talent.

The concept of the Open Classroom was formulated by Mr. Saleem Peeradina, lecturer in Literature at Sophia College and a successful writer. Having lived and studied abroad Mr. Peeradina is familiar with the Open University — a common phenomenon in the West. Mr. Peeradina feels that our educational system is too rigid and outdated. There has been no genuine change in the system established by the British more than a hundred years ago. Other universities do offer courses outside the normal curriculum but this is the first time a private institution has ventured on such an extensive programme.

The Open Classroom has completed two semesters and now commenced the third. The question that arises now is: how far has the Open Classroom been successful in achieving its aim?

Interviewing a cross-section of instructors and students gives an optimistic picture at first. Mr. Rafiq Peeradina, instructor in Public Relations and Public Speaking feels that these two courses definitely increase a person's employability, fulfilling the aim of providing courses directly related to occupations.

Results of the examination held at the end of the course are good, some students gaining distinctions in the field.

Ms. Krishnaswamy, instructor in Child Psychology and Child Guidance says that her course may not increase a person's employability but is certainly conscience-awakening. "It is obvious," says Ms. Krishnaswamy," that questions put to me in class are directly related to the people asking them." Here the Open Classroom has helped these parents to know and understand their children better. Other Conscientization Courses such as Literature by and about women and Issues in Feminism generated an awareness in women, of issues they will have to face in life, sometimes with startling effect. One young woman taking these courses began to question certain rules of her married life she had accepted as normal.

Mr. Julian Birkett, an Oxford graduate, instructor in Creative Writing, Literature of Crisis and the Twentieth Century Mind, feels that innovations like the Open Classroom are very necessary because students in India are not encouraged to think, to step out of boundaries. "I don't want to be rude," says Mr. Birkett, "but seeing students sitting in the library and copying verbatim from encyclopaedias certainly depresses me."

All the students interviewed unanimously declared that the Open Classroom is good, necessary and must be encouraged. Two young students of Sophia College taking courses at the Open Classroom feel that they have helped them to develop mentally, to be more selective in their reading and generally increased their maturity. Students are happy with the new approaches of teaching through personal discussion and have no criticism to make on the running of the Open Classroom in general. However, there are a few complaints.

In an effort to break out of the rigid, formal curriculums and widen the learning experience, Sophia College has introduced the open classroom experiment. Here are offered short-term courses in areas ignored during formal education

"Initial response was tremendous," says Mr. Peeradina. 18 courses were advertised out of which 16 were started with an enrolment of 208. In the second semester enrolment dropped sharply to 76. In the third semester enrolment is still on but at the time of writing this is only fifty plus. What are the reasons for this sudden decline?

According to Mr. Zunfarrao Moray, who has enrolled for three courses, a major drawback is that the Open Classroom is not officially recognised and that many of the courses are not certified. This is a grouse that appears in each interview. Students feel that they should have something to show for the effort and money spent on the course. This is a valid point, but Mr. Peeradina and his colleagues are opposed to the idea. They want no hint of a prescribed curriculum or formal examination to mar the atmosphere of "joy and excitement in learning". In view of popular opinion, Mr. Peeradina and faculty members may have to devise a system of informal evaluation by the instructor on each course, because this is a major reason for the decline in enrolment. It must be mentioned, however, that some of the courses are graded and certified after examination.

Another frequent complaint is that the fees are too high. The fact is that they are much less than those of other institutions that offer a limited number of courses. Apprised of this most people retort that their courses are longer and more extensive. The basic facts are that Sophia College provides the Open Classroom with only the rooms, etc., the structure required to form an institution. Apart from a grant of Rs. 10,000 from the Dorabji Tata Trust and a few thousand raised through a programme, the Open Classroom has no financial backing at all. Travel money, faculty fees and other overheads all have to be met. However, Mr. Peeradina asserts that there have been cases where they have given

Continued on page 31

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THE LITTLE WOMAN

by Don Tobin

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN OUR SHARE - THE-WORRY CLUB?
WHAT'S THAT?
WE FEEL THERE'S TOO MUCH DUPLICATION IN WORRYING TODAY.... ALL OF US WORRY ABOUT TOO MANY THINGS -
SO WE DECIDED TO TAKE ALL THE WORRIES IN THE WORLD AND DIVIDE THEM UP....ONE WORRY TO EACH OF OUR MEMBERS!
THAT WAY WE'RE ALL HAPPIER BECAUSE WE ONLY HAVE ONE THING IN THE WORLD TO WORRY ABOUT!
CAN I JOIN?
WELL, WE ONLY HAVE TWO WORRIES LEFT: "IS THE SUN BURNING UP?" OR "IS LIFE IN THE WHITE HOUSE SPOILING AMY CARTER?"
?
10-22
IT'S A HARD CHOICE -
EITHER ONE WOULD CUT YOUR WORRYING TIME TO AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM!
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THAT'S A LAUGH!

Two dockhands were in court for disturbing the peace. The first dockhand explained they'd gone to a bar for a drink when the other suddenly hit him on the head with a bottle. He struck back with a hammer and the other dockhand smashed a chair over him. "One think led to another," he sighed, "and in a few minutes we were quarrelling."

* * *

Having repaired to what they thought was an isolated spot in the cemetery, the couple proceeded to embrace when a cop surprised them. "Didn't you see the sign at the entrance?" he railed. "NO ADMITTANCE AFTER DARK."

"No," explained the young man, "we came in the other way, past the one that reads, 'GET LOTS WHILE YOU'RE YOUNG.'"

* * *

A guy with money to burn has a perfectly good chance of finding a perfect match.

* * *

We know a fellow who, upon being told by his shrewish wife that she would dance on his grave, promptly provided for a burial at sea.

* * *

Then there was the ambitious secretary who walked into her boss's office and demanded a salary on next week's advance.

* * *

"I'm always forgetting things," the distraught man grumbled to the psychiatrist. "What should I do?"

"The first thing to do," the doctor prescribed, "is to pay me in advance."

* * *

"Can you give me a definition of an orator?"

"Sure. He's a fellow that's always ready to lay down your life for his country."

* * *

A resourceful missionary fell into the hands of cannibals. "Going to eat me I take it," said the missionary. "You wouldn't like me." He took out his pocket knife, sliced a piece of calf from his leg and handed it to the chief. "Try it and see for yourself," he urged. The chief took one bite, grunted, and spat.

The missionary remained on the island fifty years. He had a cork leg.

* * *

First motorist: "I love the beauties of the countryside."
Second motorist: "So do I. Sometimes I give them a lift."

* * *

The hotel manager was interviewing a prospective candidate for the post of waiter. "You say that you were previously employed as a waiter at the famous LA PLAZA hotel. Did you receive a reference when you left?"

"I did, Sir, but I am afraid I have mislaid it. However, I can show you some crested spoons and ashtrays to prove that I was there."

Compiled by George Fegradoe

PASSING THROUGH

GERALDINE RHOADS

LEADING A MASS CIRCULATION 'ADVENTURE'

From a two-bit pamphlet in 1937 to a 275-page edition (all colour), costing 55 cents, **Woman's Day** has travelled a long way. "We have journeyed through dark periods and through bright ones. We have had our share of pitfalls and thrills — and we have grown. In retrospect it all looks like a big adventure," said Geraldine Rhoads. Bureau Chief and Editor of **Woman's Day** magazine, New York City, which sells eight million copies every month. Besides these monthly editions, there are three 'special issues' during Christmas and New Year.

Miss Rhoads has been with the magazine for about 20 years.

To start with, the magazine catered to 12-year-olds, but over the years it has steadily built up a readership of educated adult women. "We have changed over the years, but very subtly and almost imperceptibly. The main components of the magazine still remain — health, beauty, fashion and food. We do cater to the career woman and woman executives. There are many thought-provoking articles — discussions on career, man-woman relationships — but, basically **Woman's Day** retains its domestic flavor."

It is strange that **Woman's Day** has never been sold to subscribers but is available at newsstands and all the chains of food stores in big and small cities. Miss Rhoads has an

energetic band of 90 working for her. The magazine has three test kitchens and every recipe is tried out before it is passed on to the readers. There is also a workshop where all dress designs, embroidery patterns, interior decoration designs and handicrafts, even gardening tips, are tried out and materials tested. "We have experts looking after different departments of the workshop."

Geraldine Rhoads, after a brilliant academic career, joined Bryn Mawr, California, as publicity assistant. She later worked as editor of **Today's Family** magazine. She did a stint as lecturer at Columbia University and then joined as associate editor of **Reader's Digest.** A trustee of the Consumer Research Institute, Miss Rhoads was awarded the Elizabeth Cutter Marrow Award for her achievements in the field of the Diet Workshop International. She has also won many awards in the field of fashion.

"To what do you attribute the success of your magazine and the overwhelming readership?"

"We cater to the basic needs of a woman — also we are colourful, delectable, and uncluttered," said Miss Rhoads smilingly.

Pushpa Hans

WHAT'S NEW

To help you keep track of the useful new products that come into the market now and again.

Some interesting items for home/gift-giving: Kapoora 009 Vegetable-Slicer-cum-Nut-Cutter (Rs. 42), Kapoora UI-10 Juicer for citrus fruits (Rs. 35), both with a suction base; and Bonito Tiffin-Carrier-cum-Water-Container (Rs. 34). In sturdy plastic in attractive colours and metal fittings, they are available at leading stores.

music for beauty

Music has been used beneficially in medicine, psychiatry, agriculture. In beauty treatment too music plays an important role. And no beauty parlour is complete without music, says the author

It is my belief that music has a very powerful effect if used during the course of a beautv treatment. This belief is not scientifically unfounded. The aesthetic treatment of the skin combined with music helps to bring about the perfect beauty of the modern woman. It has been proved that music helps to improve receptivity. In the world of beauty, music is an essential therapeutic adjuvant.

Research has been carried out on the influence of music on the organism and on human behaviour. The Karajan Institute in Salzburg is one of the most active research centres in the world, working on the physiological repurcussions of music and its subsequent influence on beauty. It has been known that music produces modifications of breathing, heart-beat, vigilance, excitement, ecstasy and associated emotions. Apart from beauty treatment, music has been used beneficially in agriculture, trade, dentistry, aesthetics and obstetrics (the foetus is able to perceive the surrounding noises, voices, the mother's heart-beat). Music has also been used in psychiatry and sexotherapy.

The beautv clinic is a privileged place. It is a place conducive to relaxation. Here music plays an important role. To my mind no beauty parlour is complete without music.

In beauty therapy, the client should be given the psychological treatment by helping her to relax by conjuring the image of a more beautiful self and completely isolating her from worldly anxieties. If the client relaxes totally and loses herself in the music, her resistence to the treatment is reduced. The treatment is, therefore, more effective.

With total relaxation blood circulation and oxygenation improve, the epidermis dilates, waste products are easier to eliminate and the general power of the body for the absorption of various products used in the treatment is increased. The psychological stimulant becomes a physiological stimulant.

In order to play music beneficially in hospitals and clinics, the doctor or beauty therapist must keep these aspects in mind:

1. It has been proved that consonant chords produce balance and repose and desonant chords produce agitation.

2. The major note in music has been proved scientifically to be a gay note and a tonic for the mind, while the minor note produces nostalgic feelings.

3. The intensity of sound is also important. Very soft music is soothing. If you would like the client to go to sleep it is a good idea to let soft, soothing tunes play and replay. There is thought behind this. The client, hearing the same words again and again, ceases to actively follow them. To her the words have no meaning any more — it is the sound. She slips into the realm of beauty sleep.

4. A regular rhythm gives the client a feeling of constancy and security. It has a powerful impact on a sensory as well as intellectual level. Some analysts consider it a symbol of will power.

5. The tempo of the music often reflects a positive experience on the subject's mind. A slow tempo produces peace of mind; a rapid tempo produces joy, excitement and sometimes ecstasy.

6. Finally the instrument played is most important. Voices, sounds made by harps, the sitar, piano, etc., all have various impacts. For instance, it has been proved that the violin has a definite sensual effect on the mind.

I recollect my experience in the famed clinic of Dr. J. S. Barnett, M.D., in New York, where I worked for over a month. I was present during a hair-grafting operation. When the client had been prepared for the operation and just before he left for the surgery, Dr. Barnett asked his nurse if she had switched on the music. The music was soft and soothing and the words were beautiful. In spite of the profuse bleeding from the head, the client was making comments on the various aspects of the music he was hearing. After the 45-minute surgery, when I was alone with Dr. Barnett, I asked him why he had insisted on the music. He said, in a few words, what I have said in this article. He explained that music diverted the client's mind from the surgery and helped him to relax. If there was no such diversion, the client would keep asking the doctor about the bleeding and the surgery.

Shahnaz Husain

dino

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Kameez '79

oo Vacha

Peshawari kurta with its collared
kline, epaulets and patch
kets is fast gaining popularity
the young—Attractively belted,
nded at hemline, and teamed
a slim salwar, it is worn like a
c without a dupatta. Fabrics
soft and supple in this year's
thy tones of yellow, beige,
terracottas. Drawstring blouson
k or embroidered jackets are
iations of the same theme. For a
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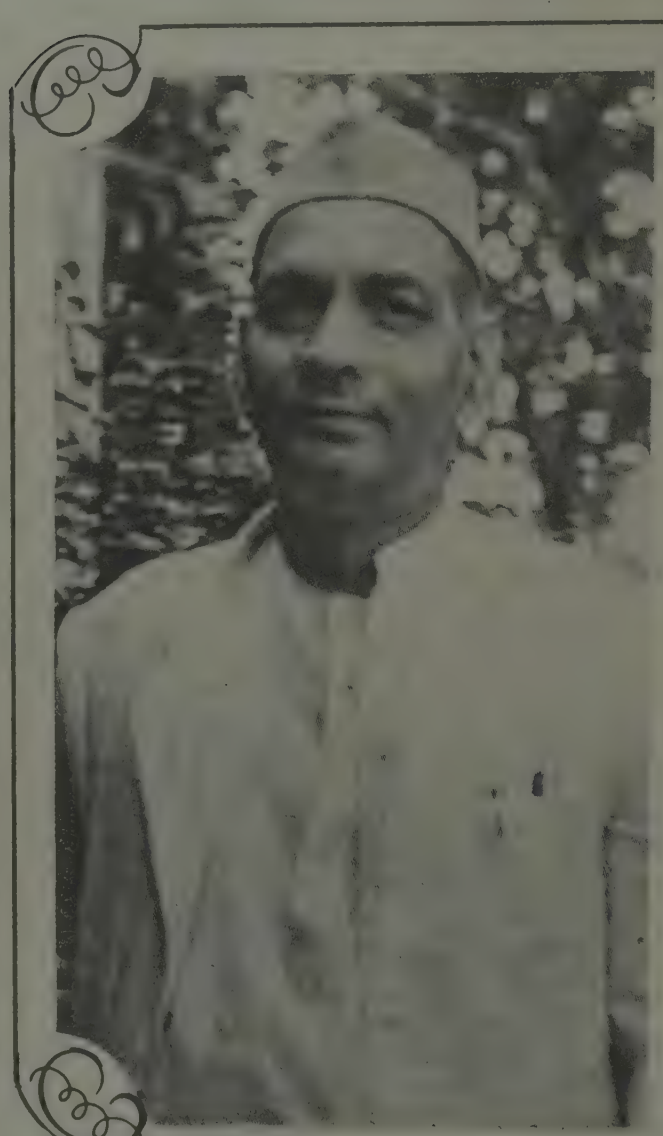
velvet trousers and it's
ic time 1979!

A MARRIAGE CONTRACT THAT SHOOK SOCIETY AND THE LAW

Meher Pestonji



Living in an age of radical scepticism, it is difficult to comprehend the kind of courage that would have been required to break social norms a few decades ago. Yet every generation has produced its share of firebrand radicals, persons dissatisfied with the social mileau they find themselves in, and determined to change it for what they believe to be better. One such couple was Tehmina and Venkat Dhage who entered into a unique kind of marriage contract in 1947 when a legal marriage would have gone against their convictions and basic principles.

Their story reads like a storybook romance. Tehmina Mehta was a needlework teacher at a Bombay school, but not even having passed S.S.C. was restless to improve her mind. Venkat Dhage, a struggling lawyer, decided to supplement his income by giving tuitions in his spare time. And the two came together. A typical, if cliched setting for a student/teacher romance, — except that theirs was going to create legal history.

Tehmina belonged to the Parsee community and Venkat was Maharashtrian Hindu. In 1947 no marriage law permitted the union of persons of different religions unless one or the other renounced his/her religious faith. And this neither was willing to do. Their courtship spanned fourteen long years as they grappled with the situation in the face of conflicting principles and emotions. Ultimately, they decided to contract a marriage by mutual consent.

"We realized that it would be only too easy to pay lip-service to the law by professing to give up our religion for the purpose of marriage ceremony and continuing to practise it later," observes Mrs. Dhage. "But we did not want to start such an important chapter of our lives on a hypocritical basis. We both believed in marriage as a sacrament, and that it is too important a commitment to be made a convenience of. Though neither of us was devoutly religious we both believed in the universality of God and in the essential unity of all faiths. We also felt that marriage between persons of different religions is one way of narrowing differences between people. We were quite positive in our mind that what we wanted was not wrong. If the law appeared to make it wrong, then the law, not we, was wrong."

Tehmina's family could not accept the idea of their daughter marrying outside the community. "If my parents had known of our plans they'd have stopped at nothing to prevent us," says Mrs. Dhage with a smile. "I had to leave Bombay secretly and go to his hometown, Hyderabad, where we were married. Later, confronted by a **fait accompli** the family was forced to tolerate the situation and eventually they came around to accepting us wholeheartedly. In fact, my father spent several months with us at Hyderabad and eventually breathed his last at our home."

"When you want to do something you believe in, the initial step is the most difficult. It takes a lot of soul-searching to work up the courage to act. Once you cross that first hurdle, people not only accept your stand but actually come to respect you for the strength of your convictions."

The Dhages faced little hostility even in the conservative society of Hyderabad in the 1940s. Except for one or two elitist families almost everyone accepted them right from the beginning. Many people frankly admitted that they admired their courage but would never have had the guts to take such a step themselves.

As a student Venkat Dhage had accompanied Gandhiji on the famous Dandi march, and all his life remained deeply influenced by Gandhian philosophy, which he passed on to his wife. The concept of the trus-

teeship of private property became a lifelong principle. During the Dandi days itself he vowed: "What I do not earn with my sweat I will not use on myself." Gandhiji's deeply-felt compassion had also communicated and left an impact on the young Dhage. "If I can wipe away the tears of just one destitute person my life will not have been in vain."

The marriage contract was unique in more ways than one. In addition to its secular sentiments, it stated that Tehmina would not be required to change her surname unless she wanted it, that the couple relinquished all rights to ancestral property, that in the face of world overpopulation they vowed not to have children, and that on death both bodies would be donated for medical/scientific research before being cremated. A remarkable document that was cited in Parliament while amending the Special Marriages Act.

The couple lived up to all their commitments. When Venkat Dhage inherited family property valued at Rs. 7 lakhs he used it to form a trust and set up the Radha-Kishan home for unmarried mothers and abandoned children, which was the first home for unmarried mothers in Andhra Pradesh. Later, as financial grants began to pour in from government and non-government agencies, including Oxfam, they opened the Vejbai Bal Nivas for destitute boys and the Radha-Kishan Balika Bhavan for destitute girls.

True to their vow they had no children. "I don't believe we've made such great sacrifices," declares Mrs. Dhage modestly, "and I certainly don't feel deprived in any way. Who says I have no children? I have more than 200 children and each of them is as precious to me as any child is to any mother."

Broken as she was when Venkat Dhage died in 1964 after a paralytic stroke, Tehmina handed over his body to the local hospital for research.

Tehmina and Venkat were ordinary people leading remarkable lives. She survives him, still drawing on the strength he passed on to her; strength that he himself had imbibed from the Mahatma. And her courageous spirit is passed on to her 200 children. Her final words are for them:

"Orphan or not, every child is born from the womb of a mother. In the role of a mother it is my responsibility to equip you to face life and all its challenges. Dont allow yourselves to be tied down by dogmas. Remember that morality is a constaantly changing concept, and that what is thought wrong today might very well encouraged tomorrow. Accept no values till you question and reason them out and are satisfied that they are correct. Above all, live in a way that you can respect yourself, for then others just have to respect you."

Declaration of Marriage

BY

TEHMINA P. MEHTA & V. K. DHAGE.

ALL religions emphasise upon the oneness of Humanity, and this cosmopolitan outlook and faith in relationship and brotherhood of man is the highest and most sublime teaching of all religions. Exigencies of time and place have created social conventions and the true teaching of religion is overlocked. The result is that we find mutual intolerance. There is no salvation until man firmly believes in and realises the mutual bond between man and man as members of the human family irrespective of the different religions to which each may individually belong. We firmly believe that in social life, one of the ways for emphasising and achieving in practice the fundamental unity of mankind is through marriage between members of different religions. If we wish to have recourse to The Special Marriage Act, it is obligatory for each of us to declare that we do not profess our respective religions. Nothing would have been easier for us than to make this declaration, but this would not only be untrue and morally deprave, but would also lay the foundation of the creative function of life on falsehood and would tantamount to cheating God. We however find that no specific procedure is provided for effecting matrimony while each of us refuses to denounce but honestly continues to profess our respective religions.

In accordance with juristic, ethical and natural principles of marriage, our alliance is proper and valid; and we, Tehmina P. Mehta, Parsi Zarthosti, and Venkat K. Dhage, Hindu, do hereby contract marriage between us by mutual consent and hereby declare ourselves as man and wife, and mutually agree to be bound as follows:—

1. We shall have a common aim in life and that shall, as far as possible, be the service of the people, socially, politically, culturally and economically.

2. We shall be physically and mentally faithful, honest and helpful to each other.

3. We believe that for a full life there must, atleast, be one child to every alliance. We believe, that by the adoption of scientific methods, children should be planned, provided children are advisable to have on eugenic and hygenic principles. And, as the population problem has assumed an appalling condition and as food is not available for all, we plan not to have children for the present.

4. We believe that it is the right of the woman to choose to have or not to have a child and the time for it.

5. We may separate at will and, particularly, on the following grounds:—

Physical and mental cruelty, imprisonment for a crime for two years, suffering from any loathsome and venerial disease, and dishonest physical and mental behaviour.

6. On separation, no one shall claim maintenance from the other, and, if any children, they shall either be given the choice to remain with whomsoever they choose between us or shall, with the consent of the children, be equally shared between us, or both of us, as may be agreed, shall look after them irrespective of our separation. In any case, the responsibility for bringing them up shall, as long as we are alive, be shared by us equally.

7. Both of us shall have equal rights and obligations in all respects and shall have freedom of action, belief and faith.

8. Each one of us shall possess property independently and shall have full right over its disposal in the manner one likes.

9. We believe that the existing Laws of Inheritence and Succession are not just and fair and they tend to promote inactivity, poverty and misery and, as such, any property inherited by us from our relations will be made into a Charitable Trust for such objects as may be indicated at the time.

10. We propose that on our death any property left intestate by us may belong to the State, provided the State shall under-take the education and bringing up of our children, if any, till the age of 25, and utilise the properties for the good of the people. In the alternative, a Trust may be created of such property left intestate with any surviving party to this alliance as the sole trustee or as one of the Trustees for the purpose of education and bringing up of the children, if any, till the age of 25, after which, it shall become a Charitable Trust, the objects of which may be indicated during the life time.

11. We believe that each one of us is free to continue to have his or her surname or family name or to adopt a new one and that it is not incumbent that the woman shall adopt the surname or family name of the man.

12. When we die, our bodies shall be handed over to a Medical College for students to study Anatomy by practising dissection. When there is no such use left of our bodies, they shall be cremated.

30th June 1947.

OPEN CLASSROOM

Continued from page 23

a reduction of up to 25 per cent on fees. The Open Classroom is not being run with a profit motive. They are willing to run a course with only five keen students.

One salient fact that has come up in the interviews is that many of the course titles are obscure. Many people feel that the titles should be more explicit or the advertisements more extensive, that is, conveying an idea of what each course is about. Raju Moray, 20, a student at St. Xavier's College, says that he is often questioned by his colleagues on the titles of the courses, particularly Literature of Crisis or the Twentieth Century Mind. What has happened — and this is a major reason for decline in enrolment — is that many people put their own personal constructions on the titles and were disappointed when they found they were not getting what they expected. Dr. Rajeshwar Singh, enrolled for Film: For Form & Function, is intrigued by the number of dropouts in the course. "Obviously, people expected something glamorous and were disenchanted," he says. "I could not help overhearing many people saying after the first lecture, 'Bas? Is that all?' ".

Mr. Salim Peeradina says that they can afford to learn from their mistakes. The Open Classroom is still in the process of formation and should be given the chance to learn by trial and error. An overall appraisal shows that in itself it is a good thing, something we desperately need if we hope to change our educational system.

THE NEW FRENCH CUISINE

The new French cuisine introduced at the Rendezvous kitchen of the Taj Mahal Hotel, is an ascent to simplicity and a trend in lighter cooking. PAUL BOCUSE, the father of the "Novelle Cuisine", demonstrated the intricacies of this most sought after cuisine along with FRANZ KELLER, his most famous, disciple and proprietor of the 'Schwarzer Adler' restaurant in Oberbergen, Germany.

While the rich sauces dominate the classical French cuisine, this new cuisine strives to retain the original flavour of the ingredients. Bocuse strongly mentions that a menu should not be established before you're off to the market. Plan the menu after you know what can be found there. This automatically obliges you to simplify, to lighten your menus.

Paul Bocuse and Franz Keller share with us some of their original recipes.

Food Courtesy : Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay.

MOULES AU SAFRON

(Saffron Mussels)

2 kg mussels, well cleaned
A sprig parsley
A sprig thyme
½ bay leaf
A pinch freshly ground pepper
A pinch saffron
1 cup dry white wine
1 large onion, finely chopped
4 tbsps. oil

In a pan combine the mussels, spices, wine and onions. Heat rapidly and stir the mussels frequently so that they all open. Re-

move from the heat. Drain the liquid into another pan, and reduce it by two-thirds. While it is boiling, add enough oil to make a light emulsion. Let it cool. Remove half the shell of each mussel, and set the mussels on a plate or a shallow serving dish. Pour the juice and oil mixture over them.
Serve very cold.

SOUPE AUX TRUFFES ELYSEE

(Truffle Soup Elysee)

2 tbsps. matignon: equal parts carrots (without cores), onions, clery, mushrooms, all diced and stewed in unsalted butter
60 grams fresh raw truffles
50 grams fresh foie gras
1 cup strong chicken consomme
60 grams flaky pastry
1 egg yolk, beaten

Into each individual ovenproof soup bowl put two tablespoons matignon, truffles cut into irregular slices, foie gras also cut into irregular slices, and one cup strong consomme.

Brush the edges of a thin layer of flaky pastry with egg yolk, and cover the soup bowl with it, tightly sealing the edges.

Set the soup bowl in a 425° oven. It will cook very fast. The flaky pastry should expand in the heat and take on a golden colour; that is a sign, it is cooked.

Use the soupspoon to break the flaky pastry, which should fall into the soup.

NAVARIN

(Lamb stew with Potatoes and Turnips)

1 kg lamb or mutton breast; neck, lower ribs, and shoulder, in equal parts
Oil or unsalted butter
1 large onion, peeled and quartered
1 medium-sized carrot, peeled and quartered
Salt and pepper
A pinch of sugar
2 tbsps. flour
2 cloves garlic, crushed
2 tbsps. tomato puree or 3 fresh tomatoes, peeled, seeded and chopped

FOR THE GARNISH :

400 grams small potatoes, peeled
24 small onions
125 grams bacon

Have the shoulder and lower ribs boned and cut into pieces of about 60 grams. Have the breast and the neck cut the same way but not boned.

In a skillet brown the meat in very hot oil or butter with the onion and the carrot, seasoned with salt and pepper.

When the meat is well browned, drain off some of the fat. Sprinkle the meat with a pinch of sugar, and stir over a high flame just enough so that the sugar caramelizes — it will give the navarin a nice colour. Then add the flour, mix, and brown for a few minutes. Add the crushed garlic to the meat, and mix well for a few seconds to heat it. Cover the meat with water. Add the tomato puree or the fresh tomatoes and the garnish.

Bring to a boil, and simmer in a 325° oven, covered, for one hour.

After one hour, pour the meat into a strainer placed on top of a bowl. Take out the meat, removing the bones and skin, and separate from the vegetable garnish. Place the meat in a clean skillet. Sprinkle the potatoes on top. If they are too large cut and trim them to the size of a small egg. Brown and glaze the onions. Cut the bacon into small pieces, blanch and brown it. Add the onions and bacon to the meat.

Degrease the sauce, which has been allowed to stand. Taste and correct the seasoning. Pour the sauce over the meat and potatoes. If there is not enough sauce, add some water.

Bring to a boil again, cover, and simmer in the oven for one hour more.

Serve the stew in a round dish.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

HINDI-1

In response to requests from readers, we now give you every fortnight, equivalent terms in various languages, to clip and keep for your record.

CEREALS & LENTILS

Rice	Chawal
Bengal gram	Channa dal
Broken black gram	Urad dal
Tur gram	Tuvar dal
Dry red beans	Rajma
Large white gram	Kabuli channa
Lentil	Masoor dal
Chowli	Lobia
Rice Flakes	Pauva
Green gram	Moong
Moth beans	Moth
Red gram	Arhar dal
Semolina	Sooji
Flour	Maida
Barley	Jaur
Sago	Sabudana
Millet	Bajra
White gram	Kabuli channa
Corn	Makai
Vermicelli	Sevain
Whole black gram	Sabut Urad
Whole green gram	Sabut mung

FRUITS:

Orange	Narangi
Mango	Aam
Apples	Seb
Guava	Amrud
Grapes	Angoor

NEW GIFTS FOR OUR MONTHLY COOKERY QUEENS

The Cookery Queen of the month will receive in addition to the usual cash prize of Rs. 100.00.

1) A 5.0 litre all stainless steel **KITCHEN-KING** Pressure Cooker with 3 separators from **INDIA METAL INDUSTRIES,** Bombay, 2) A cash prize of RS. 101.00 from **WEIKFIELD, 3)** A 210 mm Fry Pan from **TRUPTI INDUSTRIES** and 4) A book, "Delightful Chinese Dishes", by **AROONA REEJHSINGHANI. Send in your recipes to the Cookery, Eve's Weekly, Bombay.**

A discount of 5 per cent offered to Eve's Weekly readers on purchase of KITCHEN KING all stainless steel Pressure Cooker. Contact — Akbarally's with this clipping or phone 541629, Asha Appliances, for your nearest dealer.

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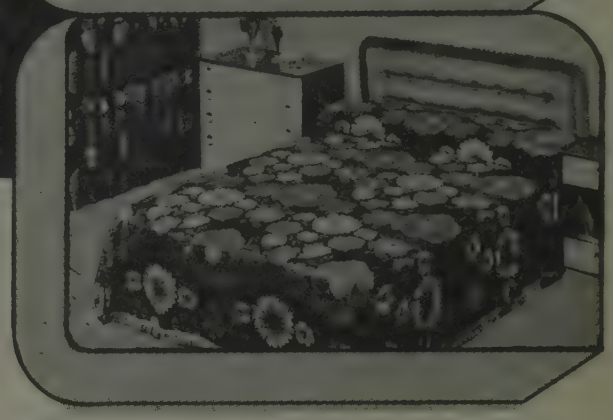

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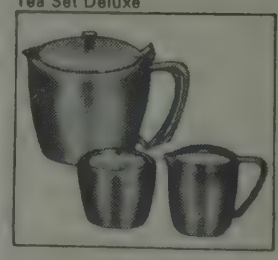
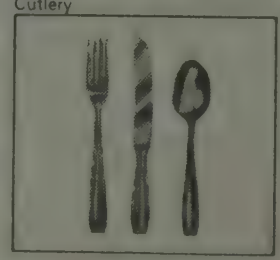


Cutlery



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RECIPES FROM OUR READERS

Mrs. Harshila Subhash, Bhopal.

CORN AND CHEESE STRIPS

1 tin sweet corn
1 bunch spring onions, chopped
2 onions
2 carrots
2 green chillis
250 grams cooking cheese
1½ dtsps. butter
1 bread loaf
Salt and pepper to taste

Chop the onions, carrots and green chillis finely. Melt butter and fry the onions for a minute. Add the carrots and green chillis, cover and cook for five minutes then add corn, spring onions and cooking cheese. Again cook for five minutes, then add salt and pepper to taste. Grease a baking dish, arrange the bread slices, then spread a little of the mixture on each slice of bread. Bake in an oven for 25 minutes. When it is crisp cut in thin fine slices. Serve hot with tomato sauce.

D. Kanakadurga, Karnataka.

SPONGY DOSA

2 cups sour buttermilk
1 cup raw rice
1 tsp. fenugreek seeds
1-2 tbsps. coriander leaves, chopped
6 green chillis
2 tbsps. oil
Salt to taste

Wash and soak the rice in water overnight along with raw fenugreek seeds. Grind it into a fine and thick paste using little buttermilk. Add salt and leave it aside for about six to eight hours. Add the chopped chillis, and coriander leaves. Pour two large spoonful of the batter in the centre of the tava and leave it without spreading on a very low fire. Add oil on the sides of the tava. Cover with a large lid for a few minutes to cook. Turn it over on the other side. Fry till it is crisp. Serve hot.

Mrs. I. B. Menon, Madras.

DELICIOUS CHILLY CURRY

100 grams green chillis, slit lengthwise
50 grams gingelly oil
50 grams tamarind pulp
50 grams jaggery
¼ tsp. asafoetida
½ tsp. mustard
½ tsp. black gram
3 tsps. red chilli powder
Salt to taste
A pinch of saffron

Heat oil in a shallow pan. Add the asafoetida, mustard and black gram. When they begin to splutter add the chillis and continue frying until the chillis turn light brown. Simmer gently and then add the tamarind pulp, saffron, chilli powder and jaggery. Continue heating until thick. Serve hot.

WEEKLY WINNER

MONIKA KHANNA, Orissa.

Miss Khanna wins Rs. 50 for this week's best recipe plus a 3-in-one Storefresh container from Trupti Industries, a gift hamper from Weikfield, a 1000 ml oil tin from KMP Oil Industries and a book by Aroona Reejhsinghani.

SPICY MUSHROOM

250 grams fresh mushrooms
3 medium size onions
¼" ginger
4 cloves garlic
4 tomatoes, chopped
1 tsp. cummin seeds
1 tsp. garam masala
½ tsp. pepper
1 tsp. coriander powder
½ tsp. sugar
¾ tsp. turmeric
½ cup cottage cheese
½ cup curd
1 tsp. dried mint powder
1 bunch fresh coriander leaves
Ghee for frying
Salt and chilli powder to taste

Clean and cut the mushrooms. Chop the garlic, ginger and onions finely. Heat ghee and fry the cummin seeds. Add onions, garlic and ginger and fry until the onions change colour. Put in chopped tomatoes and all the spices except mint powder. When the mixture starts leaving the sides of the pan, add curd and fry until the ghee floats on to the top. Put in the mushrooms and cook on a low flame until the mushrooms are cooked. Remove from the fire and mix cottage cheese. Garnish with coriander leaves and mint powder.

COOKERY CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT

New Scheme For the Monthly Cookery Queen Contest

All cookery contestants for the Monthly Cookery Queen Contest will have to send in their recipe — non-vegetarian or vegetarian according to the subjects specified for each month. We give below subjects for the coming three months to enable you to send in your entries well in advance.

April, 1979
BAKED PUDDINGS

May, 1979
MUSHROOM DELICACIES

June, 1979
CURRY SPECIALITIES

All entries for April should reach us latest by March 10. May entries by April 10, and June entries by May 10.

COOKERY CONTESTANTS!

Revised Contest Rules

1. Each recipe must be accompanied by this coupon.
2. The author of each selected entry will be informed in advance and requested to send a passport size photograph of herself to be published along with her recipe.
3. The recipe must be original and not copied from a cookery book, a magazine of any other published material The prize-winner shall have to sign a declaration to that effect before the announcement is made and the prize awarded.

Address your entries to the Cookery Editor, EVE'S WEEKLY, Bombay Samachar Marg, Bombay—400 023.

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UNEQUAL FIGHT FOR EQUALITY

Several laws have been passed in Britain to protect women from sex discrimination. There is even an Equal Rights Commission. However, enforcing these laws has proved difficult

Foes of the Equal Rights Amendment in the United States might be shocked to learn that a British court recently awarded the equivalent of $500 in damages to a 12-year-old girl who had been excluded from a school soccer team because of her sex.

Her exclusion, the judge ruled, clearly violated legislation enacted by the Labour government that guarantees equality to women in all spheres of life.

That case, though minor, underlines the extent to which women here have been successful in persuading the authorities to pass laws that grant them rights. These laws include a Sex Discrimination Act, under which the girl soccer player sued, as well as a statute giving women wage parity with men.

But if passing laws is relatively easy, enforcing them is somewhat more difficult. Thus the government has created an Equal Opportunities Commission, whose function is to make the legislation work. The body, appropriately enough, is composed of women, and they are struggling to fulfil their mission.

The purpose of the Commission is to finance court actions designed to eliminate sexual bias. It also supports appeals to industrial tribunals by women who contend that they are being paid less than men for the same job.

The court skirmishes, of course, make the headlines. But the Equal Opportunities Commission itself is concerned less with individual disputes than with altering the overall pattern of discrimination.

It focuses largely on equalizing salary scales as well as on employment practices, such as increasing the number of women who hold supervisory positions in offices and factories. In instances in which women have been disfavored, the Commission prefers to rely on persuasion and discreet lobbying rather than rush into the courts.

Britain ranks high among industrial nations in the proportion of its employed women. The latest statistics show that nearly 31 per cent are engaged in manufacturing, compared to only 22 per cent in the United States.

But achieving equality for women is another matter, and here the Commission's results have been mixed since its establishment three years ago.

It has made progress, for example, in assuring that employment advertisements offer the same opportunities to women as they do to men. On the other hand, it has lost some interesting cases.

Not long ago, to cite one of these cases, a judge decided that a men's college at Cambridge University was within bounds in refusing to permit a woman to apply for a fellowship. The college, the judge held, is a charitable foundation whose charter only allows it to confer benefits on males. So, unless a higher court reverses this verdict, the traditional educational institutions are 'safe' from female 'intrusion'.

Indeed, the courts have generally been reluctant to interfere with self-regulation associations of various kinds, presumably on the grounds that their privacy must be respected.

Thus the drive against sexual discrimination has failed to breach the walls of the old-fashioned London clubs, those bastions of male chauvinism, whose only concession to the temper of the times has been to set up special annexes "for the ladies".

Similarly, a woman magician blackballed by the Magic Circle, a professional organization of prestidigitators, was rebuffed in a court suit because, the judge concluded, her membership was not essential to the pursuit of her interests.

The Equal Rights Commission recently noted, moreover, that the effort to give women wage parity with men has slowed down following a period of advances.

Between 1970 and 1976, the Commission found, the average hourly earnings of women in British had increased from 63 per cent to 75 per cent of male earnings. Within the past two years, however, there has been little headway, and the prospect is that women will not advance further until they acquire the skills to win promotions.

So the main problem, as the Commission sees it, is that women still tend to be concentrated in lowly positions and have less than their share of the top jobs in the occupations that offer more prestige and better salaries. And at the root of this problem are unshaken attitudes and social conventions.

Sexist practises are till common in many elementary schools, where boys are assigned to metalwork and girls to sewing. The same practices continue higher up the educational ladder. Women account for only one-third of all university students, and their representation is even lower in the fields of science and technology.

It is not surprising, as a consequence, that women are deprived of senior status after college. Less than a fifth of Britain's managerial jobs are held by women. Most British schoolteachers are women, but the odds are four to one against a female becoming a school principal.

Women ought to be galled, too, by the many niggling reminders of their inferior standing in the eyes of the government. Britain's tax department, for example, automatically addresses all correspondence to husbands even though the wife may be an independent wage-earner.

Perhaps the most singular irony is that the Home Office, under which the Equal Opportunities Commission operates, has 2210 men and only 323 women on the payroll of its assorted agencies.

Given this patchy record, the Equal Opportunities Commission is talking these days of imitating the American model and tilting the scales against men in more aggressive fashion. If this happens, the really tough battles against sexual discrimination here lie ahead.

Rudolf Klein

(Klein, professor of social policy studies at the University of Bath, writes on social issues in Britain.)

HOW ABOUT IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S RIGHTS?

A shocking report appeared on the front pages of several national dailies on Friday, February 3, 1979. It exposes the depths to which the British Home Office is prepared to sink to prevent illegal immigration — even at the cost of human dignity.

According to the report, Asian women arriving in the U.K. to join their fiances are made to undergo intimate gynaecological examinations to determine whether or not they were actually virgins — the assumption presumably being that if a woman from the Indian subcontinent was found not to be a virgin she could not be believed to be unmarried.

The case that brought this practice to light is that of a 35-year-old Indian school teacher. The Home Office has confirmed that a virginity test was conducted on her. Even her requests that a woman doctor examine her and that she be allowed to cover herself with a dressing gown were apparently turned down.

There has now been an uproar over the pratice — for once the press, the government and several organizations in India have combined to make Indian displeasure obvious enough for the British Home Office to order an end to these tests.

But the point is whether they really will be stopped in practice. It is imperative that vigilance goes on. The fact that these tests have been going on for years without protest is appalling. They are an unnecessarily crude and extremely unjust immigration procedure — a horrible indignity being perpetrated on unsuspecting and often helpless women. It is in addition an indefensible violation of a woman's privacy and, as such, a violation of her rights as a person. It goes without saying that it also shows an incredible insensitivity on the part of Home Office authorities. One hopes that British women will take up the cause of immigrant women as part of their fight for women's equality.

HI YA HONEY!

By an Alves called Johnnie

WOMEN ARE EQUIPPED TO WIN IN THIS SEX WAR

All of us have problems but some of us have problems worth wresting with. Take the case of the young man who wrote to me recently asking for advice. "I cannot concentrate on my work because a pretty young typist keeps showing her legs all the time." With mini-skirts, the problem is a maxi one. One has to be careful. I believe that when a girl tries to show off her legs, she generally does not have much else to show. Almost all females indulge in this trick, unless of course her legs are not on talking terms. What I cannot understand is why females have to make a public display of their legs, when they have a couple of better tricks up their sleeves.

The problem of leg-showing by females in offices is taking alarming proportions and work in offices is suffering a great deal. I work it out this way. If one man spends an hour a day leg-watching in office, the sum total of man-hours lost in leg watching alone, by all the male employees in offices all over the country, will be a staggering figure. The country suffers badly.

I have solved this problem on a personal level and if one is serious he can fight this temptation easily. This problem has to be fought on a national level, because it's a problem that raises its ugly head all over. In trains, in buses, in restaurants, exposed legs have been the cause of loss of time and mishaps. I remember the case of the waiter in a well-known restaurant who poured a bowl of hot soup on a bald patron because he wasn't going where he was looking. Anyway, what are we going to do about all these women's legs?

Harassed males have a remedy at hand, if they are willing to try it out. All one needs is the will to do it. When I see a pair of legs atracting my gaze, I think of snow, pure, white and clean, and almost immediately my thoughts are clear and far away into the mountains. My best achievement was when I saw this woman in a restaurant with her lily white legs. I immediately began to think of the white snow on Mount Everest. I was dwelling on the slopes of Everest for almost ten minutes, when all the snow suddenly melted. She had just crossed her legs.

Not everyone of course has the ability and the willingness to fight the leg-watching habit. The weak of course would call it a problem we all have to live with.

But the long and the short of it all is that women are beginning to use God-given talents for purposes other than the Almighty intended them for.

In the days gone by men were enticed in a lady-like manner. No unfair practices were used. My grandfather, for instance, was a victim of a much-in-vogue trick, called the hanky trap. He stooped to pick a hanky thrown down by a woman, and since that day my grandmother had him under her thumb. . . or foot.

Today ladies hit us below the belt. Men have tried but failed to win the battle of low-necks and see-through blouses. "Those dainties made to still an infant's cries" have long been the cause of overpowering influence on the weak will of man.

My grandmother's advice to mother was: "Never show all your prize possessions at once. Keep him guessing all the time and let there be a long period of intimate discovery."

Today all a man has to do is step out and wham! He doesn't even know what hit him.

Entrapped by exposure, is what I call it.

Until next time then.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR TEETH?

Did you know that the first human teeth have birth rings in them very much like the annual rings seen in the cross-sections of trees?

According to their discoverer, Dr. Isaac Schour, of the Illinois College of Dentistry, U.S.A., "they form a definite biological landmark in the history of the individual."

A new ring is said to form every four days in the developing milk teeth of a healthy growing child. But only in milk teeth. Our permanent adult teeth have no such evidence of growing old which perhaps for some of us is just as well!

That there is a direct connection between the strength and permanency of human teeth and the use to which they are put is proved by a modern dental device called a gnathodynamometer.

This consists of two grips for the upper and lower sets of teeth with a powerful spring separating them. The spring is connected electrically to an indicator dial to register the physical force exerted in biting and chewing food.

Over 1,000 people were tested on this apparatus in a recent test, and their average was 171 pounds pressure, with a higher figure for those who habitually ate raw foods like nuts, raw carrots, and so on.

But when some Eskimoes were tested in the same way, their average biting pressure was 345 pounds. This is beause they use their teeth more fully than civilised modern man, biting raw fish and blubber, chewing leather to make it supple, and the like. Even so, the old belief that primitive natives and prehistoric man never needed dentists is quite wrong.

According to Sir Arthur Keith, in spite of the big muscular jaws and strong molars possessed by men of 125,000 years ago, they suffered terribly from tooth decay. Examination of many prehistoric skeletons has revealed dental troubles in nine out of 10 cases.

"Who hath aching teeth hath ill tenants," our forefathers used to say, but no sensible person today tries to deal with toothache other than by proper dental treatment. Yet it has been said that there are more dentists in the world than any other vocation — one only has to look miserable and complain of toothache anywhere in the world, and plenty of conflicting advice will be forthcoming from every stranger!

So-called cures for aching teeth are legion, of course, but little heard of today are prayers or invocations to the Patron Saint of Toothache, St. Apollonia, whose day is the ninth of February.

"A virgin of advanced age", she lived in Egypt 1,700 years ago. Oddly enough, chapels and shrines dedicated to her were built all over Europe and regularly visited by sufferers, but the relics they contain far exceeded the normal maximum of 32 teeth she could once have possessed in her lifetime!

David Gunston

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WOMEN IN FOCUS

JAYA DEVI

FINGERPRINT EXPERT

Kamala Kumar

Mrs. V. Jaya Devi of Bangalore has chosen an unusual profession. She is a finger-print and handwriting expert.

Though a lawyer by profession, Jaya chose this unusual but interesting career because of her father, the late Mr. G. Veerappa. "My father was a well-known advocate and fingerprint expert of Karnataka. I used to assist him in his work and he used to guide me. I took a liking for this specialized field." Jaya started her independent practice in 1972.

Jaya spends long hours in her study, which is packed with law books, to trace delicate fingerprints through a microscope; her verdict is very valuable in deciding a case. Jaya handles mostly civil cases, both in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. "The courts refer cases to me and I have to examine fingerprints or handwriting and give my expert opinion. I handle mostly forgery cases and it takes almost a day to study carefully a set of fingerprints," said Jaya.

Jaya's work calls for lot of concentration while comparing signatures. Among the equipment she uses are a microscope and a flash magnifier. Besides these she has certain specialized equipment to detect fingerprints. Jaya said that most of her observations had helped the judiciary to come to right conclusions. Citing an instance, she said: "A case of forgery was referred to me. A person was alleged to have borrowed Rs. 12,000. But in reality he had not borrowed the amount; somebody had forged his signature. I carefully examined the signature and came to the conclusion that it was forged. I gave evidence in court. The court agreed with my evidence and decided that it was a case of forgery, and an innocent man was saved."

When asked about the training facilities in this field in India, Jaya said there were hardly any good recognized institutions. She got advanced training by taking a correspondence course from the Institute of Applied Science, New York. In eight years of independent work Jaya has handled hundreds of cases of fingerprint and handwriting analysis.

Jaya is happily married and ably divides her time between home and work.

LAKSHMI KANNAN

POET AND SHORT STORY WRITER

Lakshmi Kannan has always taken a keen interest in Western and Indian literature but when she chose teaching as a profession she seemed to invite some caustic criticism and disapproval from her family circles. "For some reason they found it embarrassing", says Lakshmi with a laugh. "But I believe literature has a human and mellowing impact on people and I persisted in following my interests despite the family's opposition." Lakshmi has seven years of teaching experience at Delhi, Lucknow, Calcutta and Hyderabad. Last year she did a pre-doctoral course at the University of California and has just completed her Ph.D as part of a University Grants Commission scheme at Jadavpur University.

A busy mother of two boys, Lakshmi likes to spend her spare time writing and has published two collections of poems. She also writes review articles and occasionally turns out a few short stories in Tamil. She translates Tamil fiction into English and one of her translations of a Tamil novel is due for release.

Lakshmi has a professional problem. Her husband is a Central Government officer and she has to resign her job each time he gets transferred. This has damaged her career in many areas such as seniority, promotions and increments. Considering so many women are affected this way, she wonders why university and college jobs which bear a University Grants Commission scale of pay are not brought under a statutory rule which would make academic jobs transferrable on an interstate basis.

Tapati Mookerji

A FOLK STORY

THE THIRD WISH

Sarasan

Once there lived a religious young Brahmin. One day he was going to the next village and he had to pass through a thick forest. In the midst of the forest, he was waylaid by a young Harijan girl. She had a child on her hip, a dagger in her right hand and jug full of toddy in her left hand. The Brahmin shouted angrily, "You girl! why do you waylay me? Let me go!"

The girl said: "Oh! Brahmin, you should comply with one of my three wishes. Otherwise I will not let you go."

"What are they? Be quick!" the Brahmin said.

"Sir, you see how beautiful and young I am. You should have sexual relations with me. If not, you should murder this child with this dagger. If even this is not acceptable to you, you should drink this toddy."

The Brahmin was stunned to hear these words of the Harijan girl. He considered all the three wishes to be sin. But was sure that unless he fulfilled one of these wishes, he would not be allowed to proceed. He thought for a while and came to the conclusion that drinking toddy was the least evil. So he immediately took the jug from the girl's hand and drank the toddy. No sooner did he consume the liquor than it began to show its influence on him. He embraced the girl and as he felt that the child was a hinderance to him, he murdered it with the dagger. What he considered as the lesser evil — drinking toddy — was responsible for his committing the most gruesome acts. The Brahmin led a miserable life until his death.

THE RIGHT HAIRSTYLE

Kaushi Bhatia

No amount of make-up will make you look attractive if your hairstyle is clumsy. In fact, the right hairstyle focuses attention on the hair and thereby takes away the eye from other flaws. Although most of us would like to follow the latest style, it is best to resist the temptation, as the choice of a hairstyle depends on a number of factors. A good head of hair, which unfortunately very few women have, is the first requisite for a good style. Before deciding on the style study very carefully the quality of your hair, your figure and the shape of your face. Then adopt a variation of a fashionable style that will suit you.

If you have greasy hair, it is best to keep it shoulder length, so that it can be washed more often. An occasional perm is ideal for such hair. If you have sparse hair, you need a perfect cut from the specialist — otherwise the scalp may show and make you look ugly. Curly hair requires trimming more often to make it manageable. Women with thick hair are the luckiest as any style will suit them. However, a certain amount of variation would be required depending on the figure and shape of the face.

If you are tall and slim, you can select from a number of styles. However, you will do well to avoid a very short style — short page-boy look.

If you are tall and plump, avoid looking plumper by having very long or very short hair The ideal length is medium — straight hair and no curls.

If you are short and slim, most styles would suit you. However, be wise and avoid too full styles and too long hair.

If you are petite, choose a close hairstyle, and a simple one.

If you have a round face, select a simple style with a centre parting so that the contours of the face appear slimmer. Avoid height above the browline or width at ear level, fringes, curls and waves. Have the hair cut evenly and keep it below chin level.

A fringe and a little width at the sides will help a lot in making a long face look broader. Since long hair will make a long face look still longer, the ideal length would be fairly short — about chin level.

A centre parting for a heart shaped face is ruled out as it focuses attention on the pointed chin. A side parting with fullness below ear level would be ideal. A woman with a heart-shaped face can adopt many variations on the above lines.

Hair severely drawn back from the face is most unbecoming on a square face. Keep hair at chin level allowing it to fall at the temples. A side parting and a curvy style would be just right to soften the brow and jawline.

If you have a broad jawline, let the hair fall at the jaws to camouflage the heavy jawline. Have a side-parting with hair slightly below chin level and balance the jawline with height and width at the top of the head.

If you have a very prominent nose, try a hairstyle with "back emphasis". Alternatively, you can play down your prominent nose by keeping the style soft and bringing the side hair forward onto the cheeks. Keep the hairline soft at the temples with a short soft fringe. In this case, the ideal length would be shoulder level. However, ensure there is fullness at the back if you leave your hair loose. Very short hair or a chignon never go with a big nose.

To make a too high forehead look normal, wear your hair in bangs. To lengthen a low forehead, brush the hair back from the brow, keeping a short parting and a fringe.

Prominent ears may be taken care of by completely concealing them with hair. Whether your hair is straight or curly ensure that the strands are long enough to cover the ears. Needless to mention that hair near the ears should have more body to do the trick.

To hide a receding chin, go in for a cut that swings forward and is at jaw level. If you prefer long hair, have the front portion cut in this manner.

If most of the features on your face are too large, wear a soft, more pouffed-out style. Never make the mistake of pulling hair backwards, as this will only make the features more prominent.

If you are a working woman and do not have the time or inclination to fuss over your hair, go in for a simple hairstyle that is easy to handle and requires just a few strokes of the brush to give you that dressy look. Whether you prefer short hair or long, the emphasis should be on simplicity and ease in management.

If you are petite, go in for a head-hugging style and do not let hair keep falling on your face.

If you have small features, follow a wispy style with a tapered hairline to give you that "elfin" look.

If you are fond of sports and casual clothes, go in for short easy-to-manage styles. However, such styles need a good cut and shaping, so that they fall in place without any setting.

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HISTORY'S ECONOMIC OUTCASTS

Erika Schork

John Stuart Mill was one of he most ardent male support- s of women's rights. In 1869 e wrote what, for the times, as a shocking thesis "There is ardly a slave who is a slave for very hour and minute. . . Uncle om had his own life in his abin. But not the married wo- nan." He went on to claim that nen demand more from their vives than service; they demand ffection as well. It was an aston- shing document, all the more o since Mill entirely overlook- ed the role of women in the ome and in the economy.

The German Socialists Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels described the oppression of women n the family and society, but hey saw the role of women as a by-product of the social order and had no specific remedy for bettering their lot.

On the other hand, August Bebel's **The Woman and Socialism** (1879) shocked German citizens by urging "liberated" women to seek their salvation in socialism. With some justification Bebel later asked whether men at the seat of power had any reason to alter women's dependent role within the family and society. Dependent women served them — or as he put it. "women can expect as little from men as workers can from management."

The Norwegian-American economist Thorstein Veblen, in his **Theory Of The Leisure Class** (1899), declared that midle-class woman was little more than an ornament for man. Instead of being productive she consumed time, in showing what she could afford, she demonstrated how much he earned.

It was Charlotte Perkins Gilman, celebrated by Andrew Sinclair as the "Marx and Veblen of the Women's Movement", who first gave serious thought to women's economic role. She concluded that the worth of women could be guaranteed only by economic independence. Her book **Women And Economics** (1898) compared women to a horse in the stable.

"In its natural state the horse is economically independent." Ms Gilman writes. "He gathers his own food independently." The horse in harness, she adds, is economically dependent, and the best-fed ones work the least.

It would seem that today's women have escaped their corral. But this may be only a matter of semantics. As the focus for female aspirations, the three "k's" of earlier generations — kinder, kuche, kirche (children, kitchen, and church), have been replaced by the three "h's" — healing, helping, and home management. The professions now open to women are in the main in the service sector, calling for "warm hearts" and "beautiful bodies".

But as the French sociologist Evelyne Sullerot warns, the professions of the warm heart are ill paid, and those of the beautiful body shortlived. Worse, women workers are treated like guests, lured from the kitchen stove into the economy during war and boom times, only to be cast off again when peace returns or the economy falters.

The professions open to women are mainly in the service sector, calling for 'warm hearts' and beautiful bodies. But the professions of the warm heart are ill--paid and those of the beautiful body short-lived. And then there is the unpaid profession of housewife

Full employment is primarily an objective for males. Neither political parties nor labour unions have pushed for full employment for women. "Everywhere in the world men have used labour unions to keep women out of the competition," wrote Gunnar Myrdal in **An American Dilemma.** This is still true.

It is time that the international women's movement pursue a policy of realistic economic feminism. A good starting point is the statistics. Some 9.5 million women have jobs in West Germany. That is almost one-third of the labour force. Most of the rest — some 21.5 million — are homemakers.

In his book **Economists At Bay** (1976), Robert Lekachman makes the point that the household is an economic microcosm in which men and sometimes women invest money and labour (most often that of women) to produce a particular number of meals, clothes, and a comfortable lifestyle. Who organises all of that, Lekachman asks? The woman. She is the responsible manager of this micro-enterprise. But it is an unpaid service, remunerated neither by husband nor society. Were there compensation, housework could become part of the gross national product.

Another basic goal of the feminist movement should be full employment for women. Only a growing economy offers a chance for that. Therefore, economic feminism should campaign for economic growth at home and abroad.

Time is on women's side, since falling birth-rates in the industrial nations will create a growing market for labour. What must be halted is the upward spiral of wages; if it continues, employers will forego hiring and replace more humans with machines.

Every effort must be made to ensure a higher standard of living by gearing the workplace to human labour in the context of quality of life. Jobs are more important than automation.

ARE YOU GEM-WISE?

Ever since natural colourful gemstones were first discovered and worn as jewellery or charms they have been surrounded by legends and firmly believed to possess magical qualities.

Recently, scientists have been having another look at some of these folk beliefs, and wondering perhaps if there may be some truth in them after all. For the semi-radioactive properties of various minerals are by no means fully understood, and gemwise our ancestors may have been cleverer than was once thought.

Do you know the main tales associated with gems?

Perhaps you most admire the **ruby,** "pigeon-blood" red stones of undeniable beauty. They have always symbolized the sun and summertime and were once believed to contain within their rich glow the spark of life itself. A ruby was believed to protect the wearer from sickness and bad health, all evil thoughts and any risk of losing wealth or belongings.

Or maybe you prefer the unflawed grass-green of the **emerald,** which ranks with the ruby and the diamond as the most precious of stones.

Emeralds have always been dedicated to Venus, goddess of love, and were once believed to reveal to a regular wearer the devotion and faithfulness of a love-partner. Emeralds were not merely tokens of love: they were thought actually to ensure constancy in the other person. But the emerald was credited with other powers, too. Our forefathers thought that to wear one was the best way to improve memory, increase intelligence, even give some power to foretell the future.

Possibly your birth stone is the **topaz,** or maybe you just prefer its fluorescent gold to the other gems. Well, according to ancient belief, this is a wise choice, since this stone contained the power to drive away sadness, dispel disillusion and increase one's stock of courage and enjoyment of living. There was also some belief in the power of the topaz to heal sickness.

On the other hand, the beautifully iridescent **opal** was thought to protect the wearer from ever becoming ill. The gods endowed opals with the three colours of gold, blue and red as symbols of jealousy (three men loving the same woman), but the stones became the symbols of hope, of purity, and of peace. Not until Sir Walter Scott came along with his novel **Anne of Geierstein,** in which an opal caused the heroine great misfortune, did this stone signify bad luck. Originally, opals were always lucky objects to have around.

The solitary property of the **amethyst,** however, was more mundane. Always associated with Bacchus, the god of wine and general conviviality, and coloured red by him with a flask of wine, it was believed to cure intoxication. Naturally, it was widely worn!

Superstitious poppycock — or could there have been something in all this? Modern science is still not sure.

David Gunston

BIG BUSINESS

Ruskin Bond

Little Ranji's adventures with a one-rupee coin and the business he conducted with it

IT all began in the bazaar.

Ranji had a one-rupee coin. He'd had it since morning and now it was afternoon — and that was far too long to keep a rupee. It was time he spent the money, or some of it, or most of it.

Having made up his mind about spending it, Ranji was faced with the problem of what to spend it on. He had made a list in his head of all the things he wanted to buy and all the things he wanted to eat, but he knew that with only one rupee in his pocket the list wouldn't get much shorter. His tummy, he decided, should be given first choice. So he made his way to the Jumna Sweet Shop, tossed the coin on the counter, and asked for a rupee's worth of jalebis — those spangled, golden sweets made of milk and sugar.

The shopkeeper picked up the coin, looked at it carefully, and then threw it back on the counter.

"That's no good," he said. "It's an old coin. It isn't in use any more."

Ranji looked from the coin to the shopkeeper and from the shopkeeper to the chains of hot fresh jalebis sizzling in a huge pan.

"Are you sure?" he asked.

"Look," said the shopkeeper, turning the coin over and holding it up before Ranji. "It's got England's King George on one side. These coins went out of use long ago. If it was one of the older ones — like Queen Victoria's, made of silver — it would be worth something for the silver, much more than a rupee. But this isn't a silver rupee. So you see, it isn't old enough to be a valuable coin, and it isn't new enough to buy anything!"

Ranji shrugged, took the coin back, and turned into the road. There was no one to blame about the coin. It had been lying in his piggy-bank for some time, and he couldn't remember who had given it to him — probably his grandfather, who kept his money at the bottom of an old tin trunk.

Ranji wandered through the busy little bazaar. He was a bright, curly-haired boy of eight, and he was interested in everything he saw on the road. He gazed after the passing balloon-man, whose long pole was hung with balloons of many sizes and colours. They were only twenty-paisa each — he could have had five for a rupee — but he did not have any small change on him. He looked into the kite shop, knowing he could have bought a paper kite for a rupee, and taken it home and flown it from the roof; but there was to be no kite today.

He stood a long time in front of the sports shop, and he didn't feel too bad there, because most of the things cost much more than a rupee — hockey sticks, footballs, cricket balls, bats, gloves and rackets. The only cheap game he knew was gilli-danda, which the bazaar children played in the road.

He was watching some boys playing gilli-danda, and wondering whether he should join them, when he heard a familiar voice behind him, saying, "Where are you going, Ranji?"

It was Mohinder Singh, Ranji's Sikh friend. Mohinder's turban was too big for him and was almost falling over his eyes. In one hand he held a home-made fishing-rod, complete with hook and line.

"I'm not going anywhere," said Ranji. "Where are you going?"

"I'm not going I've **been.** I was fishing in the canal all morning, but I didn't catch anything. The water's too fast. They say there are fish in the river, but it's too hot to walk all the way there.'

Ranji stared at the fishing-rod. "Will you lend it to me?" he asked.

"You'll only lose it or break it," said Mohinder. "But I don't mind selling it to you. One rupee. Is that too much?"

"I've got a rupee," said Ranji, showing his coin to Mohinder. "But it's an old one. The sweet-seller would not take it. He says it's not even silver."

"Let me see it," said Mohinder.

He took the coin and looked it over as though he knew all about coins. "Hmmm. . . I don't suppose it's worth much, but my uncle collects old coins — and only some of them are silver. Give me the rupee and I'll give you the rod."

"All right," said Ranji, only too happy to make the exchange. He took the fishing-rod, waved

goodbye to Mohinder, and set off down the road, leaving the bazaar behind. Soon he was on the main road leading out of the town.

After some time a truck came along. It was on its way to the quarries near the river-bed where it would be loaded with limestone. Ranji knew the truck-driver, and waved and shouted to him until he stopped.

"Will you take me to the river?" asked Ranji. "I'm going fishing."

There was already someone sitting in front with the driver. "Climb up at the back," said the driver. "And don't lean over the side."

Ranji climbed into the back of the open truck. Soon he was watching the road slide away from him. They passed bullock-carts, cyclists, and a long line of camels. Motorists honked their horns as dust from the truck whirled up in front of them.

After a fifteen-minute drive, the truck stopped near the river-bed, Ranji got down, thanked the driver, and began walking along the banks of the small river. It was the dry season, and the river was just a shallow muddy stream. Ranji walked up and down without finding water deep enough for the smallest of fish.

"No wonder Mohinder let me have his rod," he said. And with a shrug he turned back in the direction of the town.

It was a long hot walk back to the bazaar.

He had reached a few scattered houses when he saw a barefooted boy coming towards him. The boy was playing a flute, and, in the stillness and silence of the hot afternoon, the cheap flute made a cheerful sound.

The boy saw Ranji's rod and stopped on the road. Ranji stopped too. They stood there, sizing each other up. The boy had his eye on Ranji's fishing-rod; Ranji had his eye on the flute.

"Been fishing?" asked the boy.

"Yes," said Ranji truthfully.

"Did you catch anything?"

"No," said Ranji. "I didn't stay very long."

"Did you see any fish?" asked the boy.

"The water was very muddy," said Ranji, truthful to the last.

There was a long silence. When Ranji noticed the boy looking hard at the rod, he said, "It's a good rod."

"This is a good flute," said the boy.

Ranji took the flute and examined it. He put it to his lips and blew hard on it. There was a shrill squeaky noise, and a startled magpie flew out of a mango tree.

"Not bad," said Ranji.

The boy had taken the rod from Ranji and was looking it over carefully.

"Not bad," he said.

Ranji hesitated no longer. "Let's exchange," he said.

An exchange was made, and the barefooted boy rested the fishing-rod on his shoulder and went his way, leaving Ranji with the flute.

Ranji began playing the flute, running up and down the scale. The notes he produced sounded lovely to him, but they startled people who were passing on the road, and some of them gave him curious looks. Someone even asked him if he was feeling all right. Several children gathered round him, thinking he might be a snake-charmer; but when no snake appeared, they went away.

"I can play better than that," said a boy who was carrying several empty milk-cans. He was on his way back to his village, which was a few miles from the town.

"Let's see you play it," said Ranji.

The milkboy took the flute and put it to his lips and played a lovely little tune.

"You can have it for a rupee," said Ranji.

"I don't have any money to spare," said the milkboy. "What I get for my milk I have to take home. But you can have this necklace if you like."

He showed Ranji a pretty necklace of coloured stones.

"I'm not a girl," said Ranji.

"I didn't say you had to wear it. You can give it to your sister."

"I don't have a sister."

"Then you can give it to your mother. Or your grandmother. The stones are very precious. They were found in the mountains, near Tibet."

Ranji was tempted. He knew the stones had little or no value, but they were pretty, and anyway he was tired of the flute.

They made the exchange, and the milkboy went off playing the flute. Ranji was about to thrust the necklace into the pocket of his shorts when he saw a girl staring at him. Her name was Koki and she lived quite close to his house.

"Hullo, Koki," he said, feeling silly with the necklace in his hands.

"What's that you've got, Ranji?"

"A necklace. It's pretty, isn't it? Would you like to have it?"

"Oh, thank you," said Koki, clapping her hands with pleasure.

"One rupee," said Ranji.

"Oh," said Koki.

She made a face, but Ranji was looking the other way and whistling to himself. Koki kept staring at the necklace. Then slowly she opened a little purse, took out a shining new rupee, and held it out to Ranji.

Ranji handed over the necklace. The coin felt hot in his hand. It wasn't going to stay there for long. Ranji was hungry, his tummy was making rumbling noises.

He ran across to the Jumna Sweet Shop, gave the shopkeeper a superior look, and tossed the coin on the counter.

"Jalebis for a rupee," he said.

The sweet-seller picked up the coin, studied it carefully, then smiled with all his teeth and said, "Always at your service, Sir." He filled a paper-bag with hot jalebis and handed them over to Ranji.

When Ranji reached the clock tower, he found Koki waiting for him.

"Oh, I'm so hungry," she said, giving him a shy smile.

They sat side by side on the low wall, and Koki helped Ranji to finish the jalebis.

"Big Business" is being published by Hamish Hamilton Children's Books Ltd., London, in their Gazelle series, this year. It forms one of the four books Mr. Bond has written for the Year of the Child. Two of them are to be published in India (Thomson Press) and two in England (Hamish Hamilton).

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WOMEN OF NEPAL-I

GOVERNMENT LEADS LIBERATION STRUGGLE

Until recently drudgery on farms and in homes was the lot of women. However, in recent years the dedicated work of some women has borne fruit. The government has passed legislation to protect the rights of women and initiates welfare programmes for them

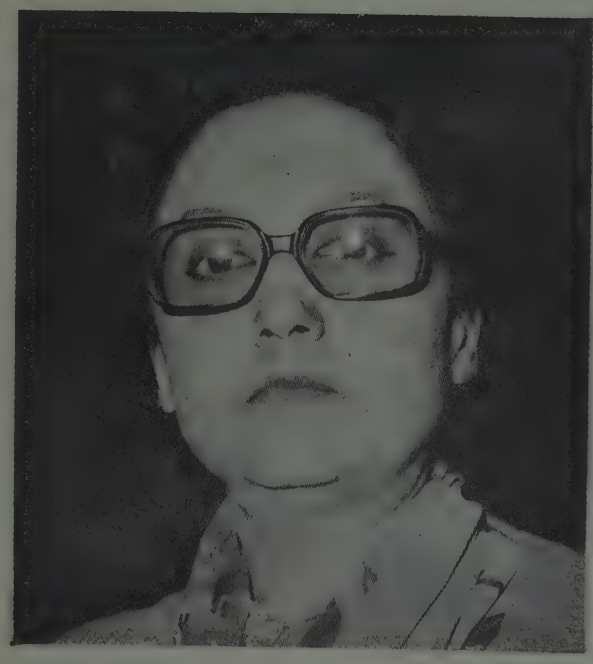
Jyotsana Kapoor

The women of Nepal have been a neglected class so far. Their lot has been drudgery — on farms and at home. They have had no time or opportunity to make contact with the outer world. Illiteracy has been their greatest enemy (only five per cent of the women are educated).

In certain sections of society education for girls is looked upon as an erosion of moral values. So the people are very intolerant and suspicious of any measures that encourage freedom or equality for women. Although the constitution of Nepal guarantees no discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, colour or sex, there was not much change in the status of women till the present constitution of Partyless Panchayat System was promulgated by the late King Mahendra. Then the uplift of women in Nepal started in earnest. But the real credit goes to the present King Bir Bikram Shah Dev, who amended the constitution in 1975 with a provision to integrate women at all levels of the Panchayat activities so that they could play a more active role in politics. It has now been made compulsory to have women representatives at all levels of the Panchayat. These members are either elected or nominated.

Education for girls, though a recent phenomenon, is getting a lot of encouragement. Various organisations, headed by some enlightened women, worked hard to bring about a change in the status of women. To centralise the work of all these organisations, they were merged into the Nepal Women's Organisation (NWO) after the emergence of the new constitution in 1962. This organisation, with branches in 75 districts, has over a 1000 units in the villages and has successfully launched various rural-oriented programmes. To fight illiteracy, door-to-door canvassing is being done to make the parents realise the importance of educating their daughters. Mrs. Kamal Rana, a highly educated woman and chairman of Women's Services Co-ordination Committee, who is fighting for the education of women in Nepal, says that a "majority of girls drop out of schools (if they attend at all). This is primarily for economic reasons, but it also reflects feudal attitudes and age-old prejudices towards women. To overcome these shortcomings, the NWO is working hard to bring changes in traditional attitudes, old practices and outdated social conventions. Seminars and symposiums are held at various levels and training programmes for women are also organised. We are at present trying to teach them marketable skills so that they can earn for themselves and raise their standard of living, as we cannot wait for them all to study and get jobs."

Mrs. Augur Baba Joshi, one of Nepal's leading fighters for women's rights.



Mrs. Kamal Rana, chairman of Women's Services Co-ordinating committee, who has championed the cause of women's education.

RIGHT: Rural women getting training in knitting.

Village women in Nepal have to work very hard. Most of them have to walk three to four hours every day to get water for their personal use. They also have to work in the fields and do other household chores. "Our main priority at present," says Mrs. Rana, "is to provide each village with a tap. We are trying to explore all possible resources, but it requires a lot of money and time. It has been estimated that it will take 13 years for tap water to reach each village and there are about 3,300 villages in Nepal. If we can reach this target of one tap for one village in this period, I think we will be very successful."

According to Mrs. Kamal Rana, the main NWO programmes deal with literacy, free legal counselling, family planning advice and socio-economic-

A sewing class for rural women.

guidance to make women more self-reliant. The NWO sends groups of workers to impart to rural women knowledge of citizenship, place of women in society, women's legal rights, first-aid and family planning. The Nepalese Ministry of Panchayat Affairs also imparts training to rural women. Mobile training groups go to different Panchayats and arrange short training programmes in sewing, weaving, maternity and child care, balanced diet, kitchen gardening, etc.

The credit for most of the social work being done in Nepal goes to Queen Aishwarya Rajya Laxmi Devi Shah who has been playing a very significant role in the uplift of women. She is Chairman of the Social Services National Co-ordination Council.

Another woman who deserves mention is Mrs. Angur Baba Joshi. She has spent all her life fighting for the cause of Nepalese women. She was married when she was only 11. She passed her high school privately in 1948, as the first school for girls in Nepal was started only in 1949.

Later, she started working for the uplift of other women. She became the first woman principal of the women's college in Nepal. She started the social service programme for the students of her college; it has now become a compulsory subject of Tribhuvan University.

Mrs. Joshi is also a nominated member of the National Panchayat, the highest legislative body in Nepal.

According to the constitution of Nepal before the 1975 amendments, girls could not be adopted. A daughter had no right to her parental property. A woman could only adopt a son if she had no male in the family to inherit the property. A widow under 35 had no right to claim her share of property as long as her in-laws maintained her on equal terms. Even if they were not doing so, it was very difficult to prove it in court.

Says Mrs. Joshi, "The conditions of widows, deserted wives and divorced women was terrible till recently. All property rights of a woman terminated if it was proved that she had been unfaithful to her husband, whether dead or living." But things have changed for the better now. An ordinance promulgated by the King in 1975 has helped raise the social and economic position of women. It has raised the age of marriage of girls from 14 to 18 years and of boys from 18 to 21. It also provides for the adoption of girls up to the age of ten years. Penalty for polygamy has been raised and alimony for a divorced wife has been provided for.

ILLITERATE

The other side of the picture. What do ordinary Nepali women feel about the government-sponsored reforms?

Jyoti Punwani

Suhana Thapa is a housewife, in Bombay because her husband has been working here for the past three or four years. She was introduced to me as a "peasant woman". A **Kisan** aurat. She spoke about her life in Nepal.

"The amount of difficulties we have in Nepal — I don't think anywhere else in the world people face such difficulties.

"We have to get up at 2 or 3 a.m. to grind wheat for the day **(chakki peeshe)**. After the housework is over, we go to work on the farms. By the time all the work is done it is 8 or 9 p.m.

"We don't get even five minutes in the whole day to rest our hands. No time even to go to the **mandir** to worship. Yet, the mother-in-law never fails to taunt us — 'what are you taking so long about?'

"Women are called **ghar ki Laxmi** and using that as an excuse, they are deprived of education. Why aren't we educated? If we ask this, people answer, what is there in education? Who'll look to the cattle?

"Women do all the housework. But they also work out in the fields. The men in the villages loaf round, without work. Or they go off in search of work outside Nepal and we never see them for five to seven years. Men can marry two or three times — women can't step out of the house. Men share no responsibility in a house, marriage provides no security for us. Yet the rule for us is that only the woman who works "for her due" will get her due share of food in the house.

"Women should get some time to rest."

* * *

Shailaja Aryal, 22, is a student here in Bombay, living with her

OPPRESSED 'gharki laxmi'

brother. I asked her about education in Nepal.

"The overall literacy rate in Nepal is 15 per cent and among women, I'm quite sure, it is only .05 per cent. In the northern region, you will find only one school in about seven villages. In Kathmandu, that is Central Nepal, which is an urban area the literacy rate among women does go up to five per cent.

"Since schools are so few and far between, girls are often not allowed to go to them. A school may be a couple of miles from your village. Then, girls are expected to look after the infants while the mother is out working. So only those who have someone else at home to do this can send their daughters to school.

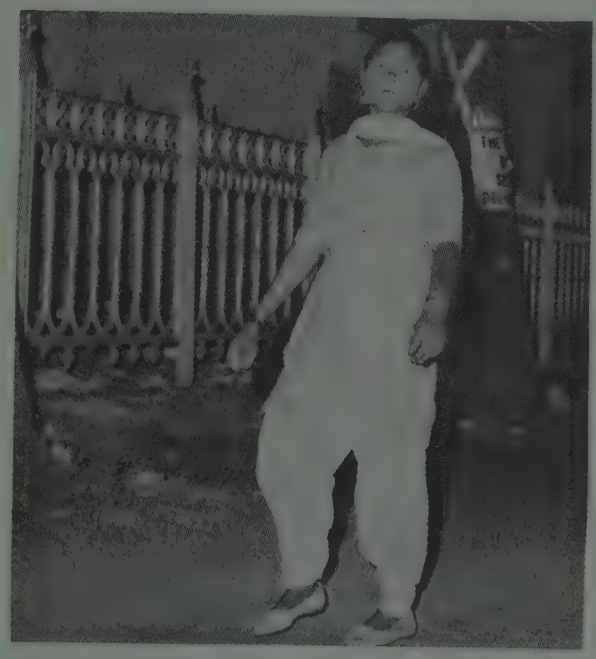
"In Nepal, 96 per cent of the people live in the villages. And in the villages, even if a woman stands at the door for some time and looks out on to the street, she is called names.

"Girls are married off when they are just 13 or 14 and then comes the real burden — the responsibility of the house. They are forced to do housework all day — even basic facilities like flour mills don't exist there. Everything has to be done at home from scratch.The poorer villagers live almost like animals — there aren't any **pucca** houses, even. The woman is made the **ghar ki Laxmi** and also put in charge of the farming. Yet when it comes to making decisions, it is the men who do so.

"Suicides among Nepali women in the villages are very common. In Kathmandu itself, there is a Rani Pokhari Lake where at least three or four women drown themselves every month. In the mountainous regions, they often jump from the mountains or hang themselves. Conditions are so bad that sometimes pregnant women have to work till the day of delivery and give birth while in the jungles!

"All the reforms exist on paper or name's sake and for the rich women. The Nepal Women's Organisation is dominated by women from the few ruling families. These woman are quite 'advanced', they can even voluntarily divorce their husbands. But this is government-sponsored activity. The few educated women who have realised how terrible the condition of women is, (some of them have become militant after coming here) and who have tried to go into the villages and work there, have been prevented by the authorities. No voluntary activity, aimed to raise consciousness of the people, is allowed under our constitutional monarchy. It is regarded as subversive."

Discussing this state of affairs with these two women and a few Nepali men, I found out that they blame the poverty of the majority of Nepalis for



A large proportion of prostitutes in India are Nepali women. Being uneducated, overworked and oppressed these women fall easy prey to the lures of agents.

the state of affairs. The panchayati system, according to them, only supports the power of the king. Most of the land is owned by big landowners, while the majority of the rural poor are almost bonded to the former. In this feudal system, the values also have to be feudal — which is why, they say, women are regarded as the absolute dregs of society. "The woman worships the man and the man worships the king." The new generation of women does feel that reforms are needed but those who have been denied education have never had the opportunity to think, or they are too poor to risk changing their lives or revolting.

The reforms, they say, have affected only the rich and the westernised class. The 'elected' representatives on the various Panchayat levels are, they say, practically handpicked from the two royal families of Nepal. "There was a real democratic women's organisation in 1951, which demanded equal rights for women along with other oppressed sections of society. They wanted to do away with the humiliating marriage customs (in some cases, the boy has to pay dowry, so the highest bidder gets the girl) and child marriages. But in 1961, monarchy was established and all other political and social bodies dissolved."

Perhaps these people exaggerate the plight of women in Nepal. But one sure indicator of the fact that Nepali women are far, far from gaining equal status is the fact that a sizeable proportion of prostitutes in India are from Nepal. I asked these people about it.

"It is a shameful fact that our women fill your brothels. One of the reasons is child marriages. Sometimes a girl may be married off to a 60-year-old. Then, widows are treated horribly, all sorts of allegations are levelled against a widow even if she talks to a male stranger.

"In villages, women whose families don't own land (the property law has not yet been implemented; in rural Nepal, women do not own land, even if a woman is the only child), have to walk long distances alone to fetch firewood and water.

"And the universal poverty which affects both men and women in Nepal makes them feel very frustrated with life there.

"All this makes women fall very easily for the temptations of **dalals,** agents. They talk very sweetly to poor women, sometimes even marry them, sometimes call them **bahen** and then sell them here.

"The lack of jobs for women provide them no alternative to their hellish lives. Kathmandu's tourist boom has absorbed foreign women in the hotels, not locals. Banks employ just about .05 per cent while colleges have just about five women lecturers each. Cottage industries have begun to be set up, but only in the industrialised area. The general employment situation is so bad that the authorities would not give the few jobs available, to women. The one profession dominated by women is the nursing profession, but of course, hospitals are concentrated in and around Kathmandu."

How will conditions change? When the majority of the people are too poor to have a say in running their own country, their oppression can't be changed by laws and committees set up by the ruling minority. This is obvious from our own situation in India.

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Palmolive Family Shampoo–
Good, rich shampoo for your family

PFS.2.78

YOUR SPRING HOLIDAY IS JUST A FEW HOURS AWAY

Every part of India promises you a thousand glorious delights. Accessible within just hours. By air.

NORTH

Kashmir, a flower-spangled paradise. With fishing, trekking, sailing, picknicking... everything. Airport, Srinagar.

Mathura, home of Lord Krishna. Revel in Holi celebrations here. Nearest airport, Delhi.

Amritsar, scene of vigorous 'bhangra' dances to celebrate harvest and Baisakh. Airport linked to the rest of India.

SOUTH

Kodaikanal, in the hills, carpeted with wild flowers, scented with honey-suckle. Nearest airport, Madurai.

Tiruchirapalli, famous for its rock temple, 800 metres up. And the nearby temple at Srirangam, island on the Cauvery.

Brindavan Gardens, terraced gardens with leaping fountains and coloured lights. Nearest airport, Bangalore.

EAST

Darjeeling, for a breathtaking view of the snow-clad Kanchenjunga. It has the world's highest race course. Nearest airport, Bagdogra.

Patna, ancient capital of the Magadh empire, today a fast developing modern city. Airport linked to the rest of India.

Kaziranga wildlife sanctuary, where you can shoot pictures of rhinos from elephant back. Nearest airport, Jorhat.

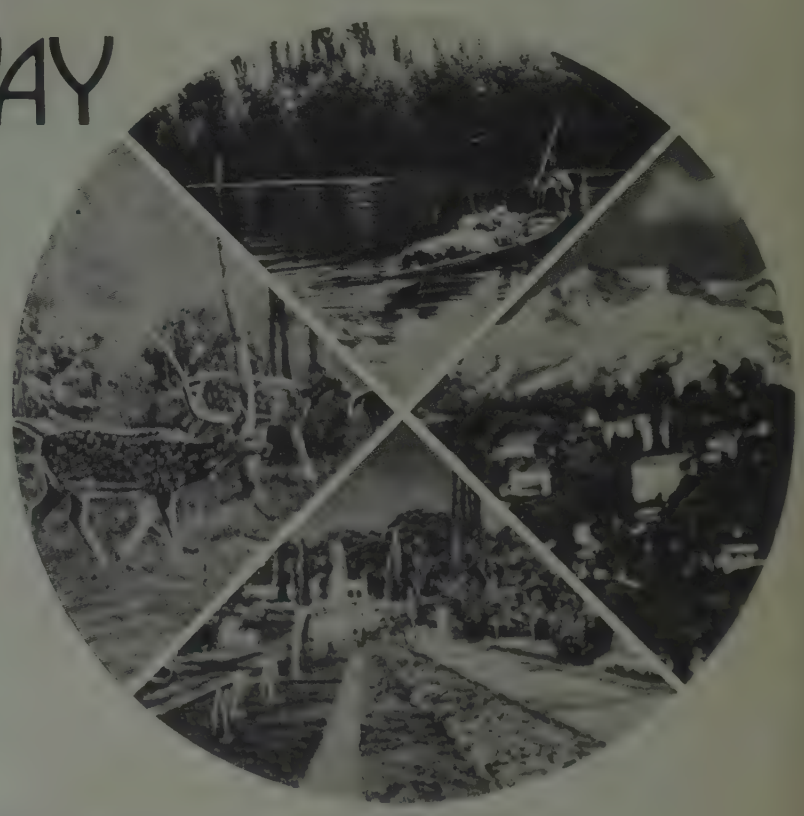
Manas exhibits the most spectacular untamed wilderness and a wide variety of species in its wildlife sanctuary. Nearest airport, Gauhati.

WEST

Kanha, a national park for tiger, deer, sambar and bison. Nearest airport, Raipur.

Karnala, a bird sanctuary, offers delightful treats to bird-watchers. Nearest airport, Bombay.

Dwarka, ancient city of Lord Krishna, which is today an important pilgrimage centre. Nearest airport, Jamnagar.



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The single state is one which is unjustly frowned upon. After all, it is impossible for every grown man and woman on earth to get married. Undoubtedly too, there are many who have no desire to do so. Thus, the state of singleness for some will continue to be in our midst for all time to come.

There are, moreover, distinct advantages to be found in being single. You have to look after yourself, and not husband and children. You do not have to cater to the whims of one, and the early sicknesses of the other. Your comings and goings are dictated by nothing but your own inclinations, or your store of courage. You do not encounter the agonies of labour, not to speak of living for months with a shape that announces your condition to the world at large.

The flood of advertisements in the matrimonial columns are no accurate indication of a sincere desire to get married. Often, religious or social strictures are responsible. Often, though this is not readily admitted, the advertisement is activated by the desire to shift the responsibility of looking after a girl, to another. And remember, hundreds of these advertisements fail to reach fruition.

THE VIRTUES OF BEING SINGLE

Then, not all women look upon marriage as a desirable state. Some are intent on life-long careers which would be crippled by marriage. Some have the inner need to show men that they are not indispensable. Some consider it to be stifling to their individuality, and yet others take seriously the failure of so many marriages around them.

In a free society, marriage becomes absolutely necessary only when one wants to legitimatise children. This accounts for the growing popularity of "living together" — unmarried — inspite of the possibility of accidents. This is also responsible for the widespread practice of pre-marital sex. However looked at, marriage does not have a universal attraction. And I cannot help but wonder how many wives, or husbands, would press buttons if, by so doing, they could regain their single status.

Another undeniable factor is that so many mothers consider it a social stigma to have unmarried daughters, of marriageable age. So it is often the efforts, often the conniving, of mothers that project daughters into marriage; whereas, left alone, the girls may have actually preferred to remain single. For, it is also true, that often the right men are not chosen, and disaster results.

So, taken all in all, if you are single you have every right to be. More than that, you have every right to hold your head high — and look the world squarely in the face.

G.F

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Devi

Raaj At Last Allows Gayatri Darshan

When he married her (some seven years ago, or was it ten? I don't remember) she was an Anglo-Indian air-hostess named Jennie Solomon. **Raaj Kumar** re-christened her **Gayatri** over mantras and gowmutra (cow's urine). After which he kept her in the house, in the bedroom to be exact. She steadily gave birth to two sons, Pururava and Panini, and a daughter Vastavika. The children had flowing hair, taveez.

He kept her under lock and key and after the years of flying Gayatri enjoyed the 'slave look'. When all traces of Jennie Solomon (visual) were erased, Raaj Kumar allowed Gayatri Darshan to friends and flashbulbs.

Gayatri made personal calls on all the guests, invited them to a New Year's party at Chetan Anand's Juhu shack.

Gayatri looks sufficiently ruined, Hindufied and a plain mother of three, and Raaj Kumar, the highly stylish man, seems to have lost originality and ideas and talks like any other Kumar and Khan. "My wife, it was my wife's idea. The party was my wife's show", etc. The show (party) opened with Mrs. Raj Kapoor presenting Rs. 5,000 for Gayatri Darshan since that was the first time she saw the bride of seven years ago. **O. P. Ralhan,** who is these days womenless (fractured leg), cooed, "She is so nice, Raaj Kumar's wife. She told me to sit down, then smiled at me at the party, and even gave me a dinner plate." Honestly, these film men!

. . .I am thinking of quite something else. Where the hell is Rajesh Khanna going to get his opening for comeback? For already back (after being reported lost for years) is Raaj Kumar. **Karmayogi** is out and out his film. Then Dilip Kumar is also not quite out. I saw him at Sunil Dutt's party for T.V. star Saira, (late actor Shyam's daughter from Pakistan) and her husband Rahat Kazmi. Dilip looked trim. All the swelling and puffiness of the face has vanished.

The Pakistani visitors wanted to see **Mother India.** So Sunil had organised the show followed by drinks and dinner. The guests were restricted to family members which included Naseem, Saira, Ali Raza, Nimmi, Javed-Honey (the couple is staying with them), Shammi ex-Sultan, O. P. Ralhan minus wife, etc. It was hilarious the way such a small group was spread over the sprawling lawns. We all sat solo and while Dilip and the Pakistanis discussed World Cinema and the changing cinema, we discussed locals — mainly the strip of Carter Road from Sultan Ahmed to Rajesh. We talked of marriage and the changing marriages. Shammi also told me that she had returned Sultan's meher of 11,000 back to the kazi and requested him to give it to garib orphans. I was furious. After all, the kazi had only performed the marriage but I had broken it with one stroke of my pen. She could have given me the 11,000. I am qualified not only because I believe in constructive destruction, but because I am garib, also an orphan; and worse than garib and orphan I am a woman and a gossip columnist.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

BOMBAY

Mrs. Shehera Framroze D. Nanavati, vice-president of the National Association for the Blind, and Dr. S. V. Oak, eminent ophthalmologist, received the 1979 Rustom Merwanji Alpaiwalla Memorial Awards for their outstanding work for the blind. Dr. Michael H.K. Irwin, UNICEF representative in Bangladesh, presented the awards. The presentation was held on the 27th anniversary of the NAB. Mrs. Nanavati is a well-known social worker, whose dedication to the blind was lauded by many speakers, as was Dr. Oak's, who has been working to restore sight to the blind at his Kalyan dispensary for over 30 years.

* * *

To celebrate the International Year of the Child and the Family Welfare month, the Nowrosjee Wadia Maternity Hospital organized a Well Baby Show last month in which 288 babies participated. Prizes were given to the best babies in the age group one — three months and three — six months. Mothers who were sterilized after their third delivery were also given gifts. The chief guest for the function was Mrs. Nusli N. Wadia. The Dean, Dr. Dina Patel, welcoming the chief guest, said this function was held not merely to give away prizes to healthy babies but to make the patients aware that a small family was in the national interest.

* * *

The Jayshree Arts International celebrated its fourth annual cultural festival with a Kuchipudi dance recital and a ballet 'Krishna Parijat'. Padma Vijayanagar and other pupils of Vidwan Vempati Chinna Sathyam of the Kuchipudi Art Academy, Madras, performed the ballet.

Jayshree Arts International was set up in memory of Jayshree Vijayanagar, who died four years ago, to popularise our classical dances abroad. To serve this purpose, a documentary film 'Cultural Heritage of India' in which Padma Vijayanagar has presented the Bharata Natyam, Kuchipudi and Mohini Attam styles has been shown in the USSR, Czechoslavakia, West Germany, Sweden and the USA.

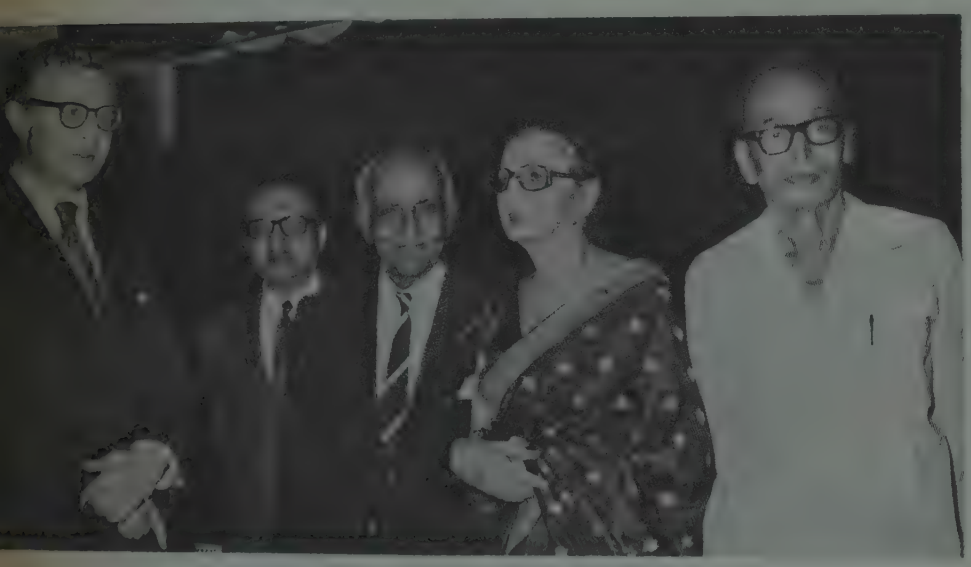
* * *

With the beginning of the International Year of the Child, **Balkan-ji-Bari** (Children's Own Garden), among the pioneer children's associations in India, entered a new phase, by starting **"Balkan-ji-Bari** International".

Dada Shewak, founder of the organisation, reported that besides Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Col. B. H. Zaidi, Mrs. Tara Gajria, Mr. Ratilal Nanavati, Dr. Sheila Motwani, Mr. S. H. A. Jaffri, Mrs. Sant Singh, Mr. Ram Kisani, and others in India, some of its promoters in the foreign countries include Mrs. Sibylle Ernsing, Mr. John Risk, Mrs. Nelly Kerber, Mr. Charles Induni, Miss Anna Maskel, Mr. Dave Madle, Miss Nota Panteleaki and Mr. C. Canakiah. The **Balkan-ji-Bari** International is the first world organisation in india for the welfare of children.

* * *

Asha Luther was sworn in as the President of the South Bombay Jaycees by the outgoing President Mr. C. M. Venugopal at a colourful function at which



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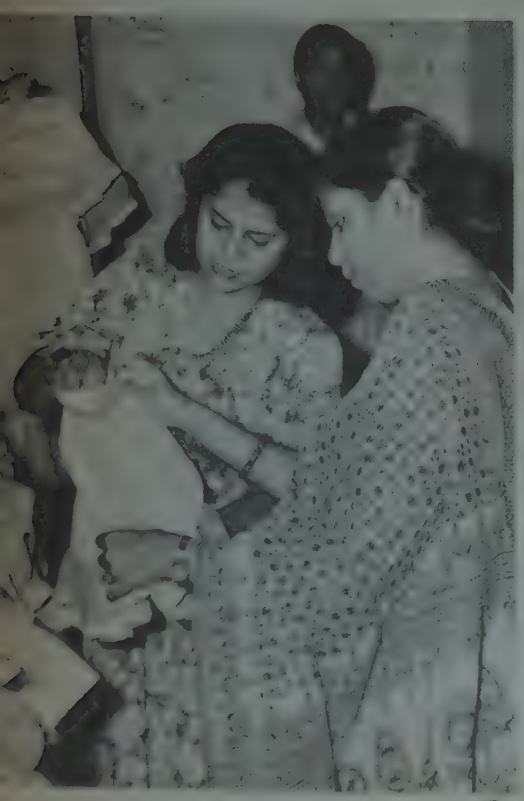

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1. Dr. S.V. Oak and Mrs. Shehera F.D. Nanavati, winners of the 1978 Rustom Merwanji Alpaiwalla Awards from the National Association of the Blind, seen with (from left) Dr. Michael H. K. Irwin, UNICEF representative, who presented the awards to them at a function organised by the NAB, in Bombay, Mr. Keki Alpaiwalla, and Mr. Vijay Merchant, president, NAB.

2. Mother Theresa lights the Rotary Lamp of Service to inaugurate the Rotary International (RI) District Conference, held in Bombay. Seen from left are RI representative Nevil Tweedie, Mr. Narayan Bhatia, governor B.T. Maskati, RI director Soli Pavri and Mrs. Tweedie.

3. Mrs. Pratibha Pawar (right) inaugurated an exhibition of children's wear designed by Tho-Thweet. Here she is seen with Mrs. Ranjit Surve, owner of Tho-Thweet.

Dinesh Shah, National President of Indian Jaycees was the chief guest. Mr. C. M. Venugopal was also felicitated for becoming the Vice-President of Indian Jaycees.

This is the first time a woman has become the President of South Bombay Jaycees.

CALCUTTA

The Centenary Celebrations Committee of Bethune College put up an interesting exhibition delineating the history of the Renaissance of Indian Womanhood. Various departments of the College had put up charts, diagrams, 200-year-old manuscripts and the bio-data of women pioneers in different fields. The research work put in revealed some unknown facets of the history of Indian women, for example, the series on women administrators of ancient India. The virtue of the exhibition for the younger viewers lay in its up-to-date information, pleasingly presented with photographs and bio-data of women in every field.

HYDERABAD

The Islamic Culture Magazine celebrated its Golden Jubilee recently. Mr. Mukaffam Jah presided over the function, while Mr. Hidayutullah, former Chief Justice of India, was the chief guest. Prof. Ram Reddy, Vice-Chancellor of Osmania University, released the commemorative volume brought out on the occasion. Syed Ali Akbar who has been doing yeoman service in the cause of the magazine, welcomed the guests.

LUCKNOW

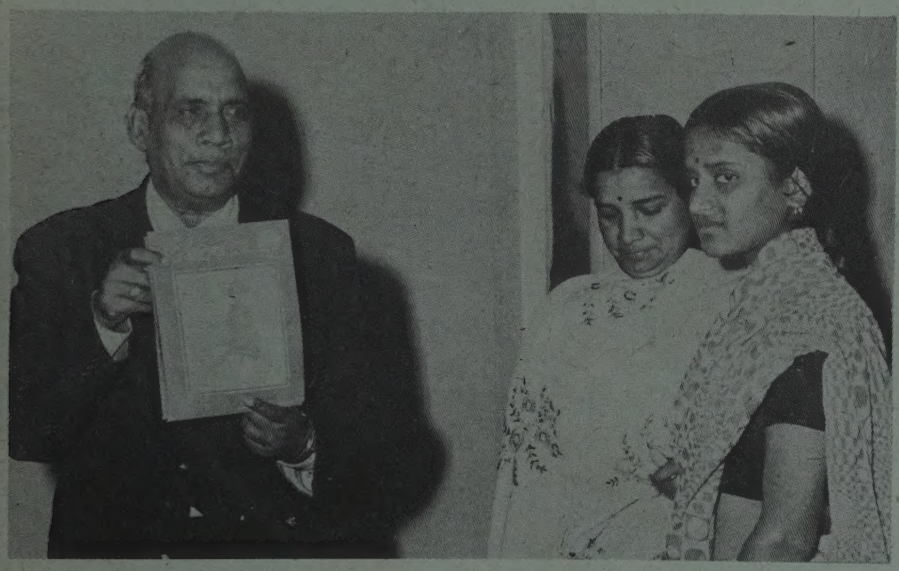
Mrs. Shirin Dastur, wife of Air Marshal S. J. Dastur, Chairman, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), accepted the handicraft mementos presented by the students of the H.A.L. School, Lucknow. Earlier, the children presented a P.T. display in honour of the visiting chairman and his wife. Mrs. Dastur also inaugurated the "Baby Show" organised by the Workers' Welfare Fund Association and distributed the prizes to the proud mothers, whose children were judged the Best Babies.

BANGALORE

The Shri Ganesh Natya Mandir celebrated its 29th anniversary with an evening of classical dance at the Town Hall, Bangalore, under the able guidance of Mrs. Lalitha Dorai, Founder Director of the Natya Mandir. The programme also included two Bharata Natyam dance dramas: **Sri Valli** and **Bhaktha Prahlada.**

ATTENTION READERS
Change in Fashion Show and Exhibition Dates

Eve's Weekly and Sophistication boutique will hold a grand Fashion Show on March 19, at the Regal Room, Oberoi Sheraton Hotel, Bombay, followed by an exhibition-cum-sale of their exclusive garments on March 20, 21, 22, 23 at the Silver Arch, Oberoi Sheraton Hotel, and not as announced in our issue dated February 10, 1979.



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4. At the Annual Day celebrations of the Western Railway Women's Social Service Committee, Ratlam division, (from right) Mrs. Sitadevi Ramaswamy, president of the Committee (HQ), Mrs. Abha Wadhwa, sec. and Mrs. Uma Pant, pres. of the Dvsnl. Comm., go round the wards of Ratlam's Rlwy. Hospital.

5. Dr. R. S. Misra, Vice-Chancellor, Kanpur University, releases Tulika '78, an Art Annual published by TULIKA, an organisation of woman artists in Kanpur. Seen with him are, from left, editor Prem Kumari 'Rashmi' and sub-ed. Rekha Agarwal.

6. Mrs. Nusli Wadia, chief guest at the Baby Show held to commemorate the IYC by the Nowrosjee Wadia Maternity Hospital, Bombay gives a prize to the mother of one of the winners. At right is Dr. D. N. Patel, Dean of the Hospital.

7. Mrs. Nalini Das inaugurates the Bethune College's exhibition held in Calcutta to mark the College's centenary celebrations. Dr. Dipti Tripathy, principal, is to her left.

7

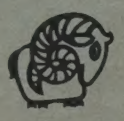
THIS WEEK FOR YOU

FOR THE WEEK FEB. 18 — 24

John Naylor

IF IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK:

A restless atmosphere but whatever changes occur are 'fated', and will throw out of your life what you perhaps should have discarded yourself before now! A fascinating new path will beckon in 1980 so rise to challenges meanwhile. The influence of the planets on your affairs means that you will tend to isolate yourself; it will be necessary to make an effort to keep up with friendships and social relaxation. It is possible that you have already changed course completely, either emotionally or careerwise — both these areas, perhaps. The coming year will gradually show you the benefits of such adjustments.



ARIES
(MARCH 22 — APRIL 20)

The future looks bright for you; some worthwhile opportunities are on the way. But this week, the accent is strictly on the lighter side of life, with some promising meetings, if unattached. A good trend in money matters too.

TAURUS
(April 21 — May 21)

You might be feeling happy about a minor change which has occurred. If not, then you have this to look forward to. Money troubles of the past few months are relatively over so there is no need to be over-cautious now. Social life and travel are wel-starred.

GEMINI
(May 22 — June 21)

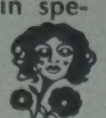
Should you have found it necessary to abandon a special aim recently, this can now be revived — but will probably need updating in view of fresh contingencies. Take time to do necessary groundwork. A journey will have a fortunate outcome this week.

CANCER
(June 22 — July 23)

Your problems are on the wane so try not to get harassed by trivialities or the indifferent behaviour of companions. Be tactful in all areas this week and there will be distinct improvement shortly, especially in two areas: money matters and your love life. If you have neglected health or appearance lately, get busy on what is needed.

LEO
(July 24 — August 23)

Life will have its little ups and downs for a few weeks but at the end of February the atmosphere will improve at least. Folks are hard to please just now — but not too willing to put themselves out for you it seems! Don't make yourself a doormat but go along your own independent way as far as you can. However, try to keep harmony in special relationships.



VIRGO
(Aug. 24 — Sept. 23)

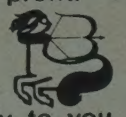
You are now in a period when several stars will transit in opposition to your sign. The main need is to organise skilfully and to stick to the essentials. You will find March a hard-working month so prepare for this now and don't be surprised if extra responsibility is pushed on to you.

LIBRA
(Sept. 24 — Oct. 23)

There will be plenty of chances to flirt and have fun, and if already involved, your relationship could begin to look more permanent. However, more serious issues will soon take your time and attention and there will be some minor problems to contend with in the near future.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24 — Nov. 22)

The general planetary pattern is very favourable to you and you have several weeks of carefree activity to look forward to. There will be new meetings of promise, if single. Moneywise, you'll have a lucky touch so be alert to opportunities to make profit.



SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23 — Dec. 22)

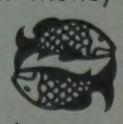
Fresh faces and places will be lucky to you, so keep on the move, open to the possibilities around. If there is anything in your set-up you are not satisfied with, you can make changes without too much trouble. But take care under the angular planetary picture on the 20th — you could easily undo recent good work and goodwill built up.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 23 — Jan. 20)

Put the accent on communication and you won't go far wrong! Give out and people will respond pleasingly. In any case, friends, colleagues and loved ones will be in the mood to do favours.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21 — Feb. 19)

If you are not seriously involved in a relationship, a new romance could blossom this week — but may take time to develop satisfactorily. The lighter side of life has much to offer for some weeks ahead — useful contacts as well as pleasure. Money trends are good.



PISCES
(Feb. 20 — March 21)

The Sun and Mercury are in your sign, ensuring a busy and amusing week — also an optimistic one. Other starry transits will also affect your affairs in the weeks ahead so you can expect a fortunate, perhaps exciting period on the way. Make the make of your chances in both personal and business matters. Travel, interviews and meetings are favoured.

A fool and her money are soon courted.
(Helen Rowland)

He is every other inch a gentleman.
(Rebecca West)

Every dogma must have its day.
(Carolyn Wells)

The more I see of men, the more I like dogs.
(Madame de Stael)

Mosquitoes were using my ankles as filling stations.
(Conelia Otis Skinner)

Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses.
(Dorothy Parker)

In the midst of life we are in debt.
(Ethel Mumford)

I despise the pleasure of pleasing people whom I despise.
(Lady Mary Montagu)

WORDS FROM WISE WOMEN

Regret is an appalling waste of energy.
(Katherine Mansfield)

If a man is only a little lower than the angels, the angels should reform.
(Mary Wilson Little)

He must have had a beautiful build before his stomach went in for a career of its own.
(Margaret Halsey)

Business was his aversion; pleasure was his business.
(Maria Edgeworth)

Women are never stronger than when they arm themselves with their weaknesses.
(Madame du Deffand)

America's best buy for a nickel is a telephone call to the right man.
(Ilka Chase)

Women give themselves to God when the devil wants nothing more to do with them.
(Sophie Arnold)

The most exhausting thing in life is being insincere.
(Anne Lindbergh)

Woman is only one of Nature's agreeable blunders.
(Hannah Cowley)

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